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Further on Joint 'Friendship 88' Exercises

LD141305 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0810 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Magdeburg 14 Apr (ADN)—The joint defensive operations of staffs and troops of the National People's Army (NVA), the Polish Army, and the GSFG [Group of Soviet Forces in Germany] in the "Friendship 88" exercises continued today. Efforts are being concentrated on halting the attacker, warding off new thrusts, and reestablishing the initial position.

At the Klietz training area, observers from 23 countries are following events. Here soldiers of the Polish Army and the NVA are cooperating in mounting a counterattack to smash the invading troops.

Observers Depart

LD150847 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1151 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Magdeburg 14 Apr ADN—In the "Friendship 88" exercise, the staffs and troops of the National People's Army (NVA) of the GDR, the Polish army, and the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany [GSFG] continued their defensive operations. During the day, there was a meeting between the controller of the exercise, Colonel General Horst Stechbarth, deputy minister for national defense and chief of the NVA ground forces, and the 44 diplomats, generals, and officers of 23 CSCE member-states. Their presence is an expression of the implementation of confidence- and security-building measures in Europe, he said. Colonel General Stechbarth thanked the observers for the businesslike and proper working atmosphere maintained at all times. He also expressed the hope that their activity at "Friendship 88" would help deepen detente policy and consolidate trust between the peoples and in this way contribute to the safeguarding of peace.

On the fourth day of their activity, the foreign diplomats and military personnel observed operations at the Klietz training ground. By bringing up reserves, the defenders succeeded in halting the troops of the "other side," who had broken through on various sectors of the front, warding off new thrusts and, after a counterattack, reestablishing the original position.

Motorized infantry and tank units were supported by artillery, fighter- bombers, and helicopter gunships. Soldiers of the mechanized regime of Lieutenant Colonel Aleksander Bortnowski of the Polish Army demonstrated their sound state of training. It is one of the best in the Silesian military district and played an important part in the success. The comrades-in-arms from the neighboring country were able to rely on engineers of the NVA erecting a bridge over the Havel at the scheduled time. Within 15 minutes 25 seconds, the steel link stretched from bank to bank. Further reinforcements came across these pontoons to smash the "enemy."

The last point for observation by the generals, officers, and diplomats was the loading station of Mahlwinkel [Magdeburg Bezirk]. The units participating in the exercise returned to their bases from there. With this, the number of soldiers deployed in "Friendship 88" came in under the threshold laid down in the Stockholm Document for the presence of observers. The observers were seen off in Magdeburg in the evening by Lieutenant General Gerhard Kunze, deputy chief of the NVA main staff, in the name of the government of the GDR and on behalf of Army General Heinz Kessler, minister of national defense.

CEMA Light Industry Commission Meets

AU141357 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 13 Apr 88 p 4

[MTI report: "Light Industry Cooperation Within CEMA to Expand—Jozsef Marjai and Pavol Hrivnak Hold Talks"]

[Text] The CEMA Permanent Commission for Light Industry opened its 50th anniversary meeting in Budapest on 12 April.

The Permanent Commission coordinates the economic activity of the member countries in five branches: the textile and knitting industry, the clothing industry and fashion, the leather and shoe industry, the wood-processing industry, and the printing industry. The plenary session was opened by CSSR Deputy Premier Pavol Hrivnak, chairman of the Permanent Commission. Reviewing the development of light industry in the member countries, Pavol Hrivnak said that primarily the clothing and furniture industries have increased their production considerably in recent years. He pointed out that the member countries consider it an important task to further increase the amount of light industry products, widen the assortment, and develop new raw materials and auxiliary and furnishing materials.

Deputy Premier Jozsef Marjai, minister of trade, greeted the delegations on behalf of the government of the Hungarian People's Republic. He stressed that both the internal and external conditions of economic development have changed considerably in the majority of CEMA member countries in recent years. The current meeting, which aims at modernizing cooperation within CEMA, will also help the members to adjust to the new conditions and solve the problems that have accumulated. This, however, requires the leading experts in light industry in the CEMA countries' to cooperate in a more direct and flexible form than they have until now. This is to supply their populations with high quality and modern products. It is also important that, in future, cooperation should be less characterized by formal elements and that bilateral relations, including direct contacts between enterprises, should play a greater role.

Following the plenum, the delegations continued their work in section meetings. The Commission, had previously worked out a separate program for the development of the light industries of Mongolia, Cuba, and Vietnam. At the current meeting, the experts will also discuss the current situation in the implementation of this program.

Jozsef Marjai held a cordial meeting with Pavol Hrivnak on 12 April. Pavol Hrivnak, who is also co-chairman of the Hungarian-CSSR economic and technical-scientific cooperation committee, is in Budapest on the occasion of the 50th festive meeting of the Permanent Commission. At the talks, they dealt with topical issues of bilateral relations and the tasks of implementing the high-level agreements on further developing and expanding the economic cooperation between the two countries.

Briefs

CEMA Seed Protocols

TARNOW, April 14—Bilateral protocols on supplies of seed of cultivated plants were signed as a result of a three-day session of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) Standing Committee for Cooperation in Agricultural Seed Production, which ended also today at the "Igloopol" agricultural processing sindicate in Debica, near here. Owing to the agreements, Poland will have larger supplies of leek seed from Yugoslavia, of malting barley seed from Czechoslovakia, of spring barley seed from the GDR, and of corn seed from Hungary. In return, Poland will deliver seeds of major crops, especially, triticale and rye, and export, for the first time ever, seed potatoes to Mongolia. Reciprocal supplies of seed are expected to trigger better effects in the agricultures of particular countries. There is also a chance for CMEA countries' self-sufficiency in stopping expensive imports of seed from capitalist countries. [Text] [*LD150144 Warsaw PAP in English 1700 GMT 14 Apr 88*]

Bulgaria's Mladenov Addresses Geneva Conference

AU141649 Sofia BTA in English
1615 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Geneva, April 14 (BTA)—Mr Petur Mladenov, Bulgaria's minister of foreign affairs, told the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva today that his country has a high opinion of that forum, called upon to play an important role in the process of disarmament.

He emphasised that at its session held in Sofia in late March, the Warsaw Treaty Foreign Ministers Committee considered the priorities in the further promotion and strengthening of the positive trends in the international situation. "The appeal to the NATO member states, to all participating states in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, adopted in Sofia, is a wide-ranging and positive programme for interaction, and we hope for a constructive reply on it," Mr Petur Mladenov said.

He pointed out that good wishes are not enough for the successful building of a nuclear-weapon-free and nonviolent world. This requires joint efforts and a realistic global programme which should cover the politico-military, socio-economic, humanitarian and ecological fields.

Discussing the importance of the Balkan countries' foreign ministers meeting in Belgrade, which has been generally acknowledged as a substantial contribution to the improvement of the situation in Europe, Mr Petur Mladenov said that at the forum Bulgaria put forward a number of measures to lower the level of military confrontation in the region. The idea to turn the Balkan Peninsula into a zone free of mass destruction weapons is now as topical as ever.

Bulgaria has participated in the work of the disarmament conference ever since its establishment. "We believe that bilateral and multilateral disarmament talks can and should be complementary to one another," he said.

Our attention continues to be focused on the complex of questions related to nuclear disarmament, continued the Bulgarian foreign minister, stressing that the working out, as soon as possible, of a draft for a multilateral treaty on full and universal ban on nuclear tests would correspond to the interests of all states and would be of exceptional importance to nuclear disarmament. We support the proposal of the conference to start the coordination of the basic elements of an international mechanism for verification procedures and of the respective international-legal procedures securing adherence to the future treaty, he said.

Mr Petur Mladenov voiced Bulgaria's support for the conclusion of a convention, as soon as possible, on the complete ban and destruction of chemical weapons, support for the proposal for immediate formation of a system for international control aiming at non-admission of any kind of weapons into space.

He also pointed out that at different forums Bulgaria has set forth a number of times the question for reduction and limitation of naval confrontation and for proliferation of confidence-building measures in the water area. Bulgaria is preparing for the third special session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament, which is expected to confirm and enrich the fundamental concept of security through disarmament, to outline the main directions of disarmament and security strengthening, and to give positive impetus to all bilateral and multilateral negotiations.

We would like that the Conference on Disarmament be a rational- and productive-acting body, capable of finding generally acceptable solutions of the tasks in reasonable terms, Bulgaria's foreign minister said in conclusion.

Iranian Agriculture Minister Continues Visit

Zali, Lukanov Confer

LD140915 Tehran IRNA in English
0720 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Tehran, April 14, IRNA—'Abbas 'Ali Zali, minister of agriculture, on the second day of his visit to Bulgaria met Bulgarian minister of Foreign Economic Relations, Andrey Lukanov in Sofia Wednesday.

In the meeting which was held in a friendly atmosphere, the two sides reiterated the promotion of Iran-Bulgaria relations in all fields.

Zali turning to Iraqi chemical bombardment of Halabja said "without any doubt the Halabja incident will go down in history as one of the greatest catastrophes." At least 5,000 women, children and old people were martyred and 7,000 others maimed in the gruesome Iraqi crime. It was so great that even imperialism and "our enemies" could not keep silent on the issue, he added.

He said Iran believes the use of chemical weapons would become something quite normal around the world unless Saddam is prevented from committing further criminal acts of this kind, he added.

The Bulgarian minister said in response that his country condemns the use of chemical weapons and is following the case closely." [No opening quotemark as received] He described the act as catastrophic to international peace.

Lukanov also expressed hope that mutual ties will further expand.

Zali heading a delegation is in Sofia in order to attend the fifth meeting of Iran-Bulgaria joint commission.

Zali, Zhivkov Meet

LD141032 Tehran IRNA in English
1014 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Tehran, April 14, IRNA—Agriculture Minister 'Abbas 'Ali Zali currently in Sofia met with Bulgarian Prime Minister Georgi Atanasov Wednesday and discussed mutual political and economic relations. Both sides stressed further expansion of bilateral ties.

Zali who is in Sofia to attend a session of joint Iran-Bulgaria economic commission also briefed Atanasov on Iraqi missile attacks on Iranian cities. He said the Iranian nation is determined to resist until regaining of its rights and punishment of the aggressor.

The Iranian minister also talked about Baghdad's chemical attacks on northeastern Iraqi city of Halabja. The Bulgarian premier condemned Iraq's chemical warfare and expressed hope that his forthcoming visit to Tehran will further strengthen bilateral relations.

Discuss U.S. Intervention, Issues

LD141758 Tehran IRNA in English
1541 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Tehran, April 14, IRNA—Agriculture Minister 'Abbas 'Ali Zali leading a delegation to Bulgaria met President Todor Zhikov in Sofia Thursday and submitted him a message from President 'Ali Khamene'i.

Zali briefed Zhikov on the progress of the Tehran-Sofia economic commission, and also elaborated on the crimes of the Ba'thist regime of Iraq in deploying chemical weapons.

He said that the Islamic Republic of Iran believes antiimperialist countries should concert their actions against the enemy until the aggression is weeded out and the U.S. slapped on the face.

On the Afghan issue, he said it can be solved only with the active presence of the representatives of Afghan Muslims.

In response, Zhikov said that to have relations with Iran is of special priority for Bulgaria which is ready to expand bilateral ties.

He emphasized that the U.S. is behind all turmoils around the globe and has disturbed world peace.

Mladenov Addresses UN ECE, Leaves for Vienna

AU141813 Sofia BTA in English
1742 GMT 14 Apr 88

["Bulgaria: Active in International Division of Labour"—BTA headline]

[Text] Geneva, April 14 (BTA)—"Relations among the members of the Economic Commission for Europe have always depended on the extent of mutual trust. Therefore, in the spirit of new political thinking, we are pursuing such standards of conduct that build confidence and create favourable conditions for all-round development of cooperation in Europe", Mr Petur Mladenov, Bulgaria's minister of foreign affairs, told the 43rd session of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) today.

He emphasised that this is evidenced and helped by the decisions of the session of the Warsaw Treaty Foreign Ministers' Committee held in Sofia and by the appeal it adopted to the NATO member states and to all participating states in the Helsinki Process.

Discussing the importance of the Balkan countries' foreign ministers meeting in Belgrade, Mr Petur Mladenov emphasised that an emphasis was laid there on the possibilities for the ECE to contribute to the promotion of inter-Balkan cooperation. The projects for connecting the power grids of Eastern and Western Europe to those of the Balkan states, for the north-south trans-European highway, and for the utilization of low-energy fuels provide conditions for such participation.

Mr Petur Mladenov paid particular attention to the problem of environmental protection. He stressed the primary importance which Bulgaria attaches to cooperation in this field. He recalled that Bulgaria suggested that the Balkan states sign a treaty on the ecological protection of the peninsula and adopt an appeal on that matter to all European countries and people, as well as the suggestion which Bulgaria tabled at the Vienna Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe to host an ecological forum within the CSCE process.

Bulgaria attaches great importance to the trade and economic cooperation among the ECE member countries. The ECE framework provides every opportunity for the coordination of terms and for the creation of prerequisites to expand and consolidate trade and economic relations among the countries on the principles of equality and mutual benefit, with the removal of the artificial barriers and all forms of discrimination, he said.

On the basis of reciprocity, the Bulgarian foreign minister emphasised, we are ready to work together with the other countries for the promotion of integration processes in science and technology, for the strengthening of multilateral techno-scientific cooperation, for the attainment of the objectives in the different areas of ECE work.

Mr Petur Mladenov familiarized the session with the economic reform under way in Bulgaria, which will create conditions for a more active and efficient participation of Bulgarian economic organisations in the international division of labour. They are granted wide-ranging rights to establish business contacts with foreign partners in spheres of mutual interest, to set up joint ventures etc. The new approach in this field is also evidenced in the steps taken by the government for Bulgaria's accession to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, for the establishment of formal relations with the European Community, for more active contacts with other international organisations, for providing a legal framework to set up free trade zones in Bulgaria, Mr Petur Mladenov said.

At Bulgaria's permanent mission in Geneva today, Mr Petur Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs, met with senior officials of the UN special agencies with headquarters in Geneva.

The sides exchanged views on questions concerning the cooperation between those organisations and Bulgaria and outlined its further promotion.

This evening Mr Petur Mladenov left Geneva for Vienna, where he will take part in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

UK Trade Minister Clark Discusses Visit

AU150708 Sofia BTA in English
1955 GMT 14 Apr 88

["Bulgaria-Britain: Fine Prospects for Cooperation"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 14 (BTA)—"We discussed the possibilities for wider trade and economic relations in the light of the reform under way in Bulgaria," Mr Alan Clark, Britain's minister of state for trade, told a BTA reporter. He indicated that the two countries' participation in international trade and in international economic organizations were also considered during his stay here. The British minister expressed his willingness to assist in the speeding up of the negotiations about the signing of an investment promotion and protection agreement. The Joint Commission for Economic, Industrial, Scientific and Technological Cooperation is working efficiently. "Britain is Bulgaria's third largest partner among the industrialized Western states, and I hope she will keep this position," the minister said.

An aide memoire signed on the results of the talks between Mr Khristo Khristov, minister at the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, and Mr Alan Clark, Britain's minister of trade, emphasises the importance for the encouragement of bilateral economic interaction of the visits exchanged by the two countries' chief diplomats, Mr Petur Mladenov and Sir Geoffrey Howe, and of the signed convention for avoidance of double taxation.

The two sides state that the negotiations leading to the conclusion of the investment promotion and protection agreement should be speeded up, since the agreement will facilitate the establishment of joint ventures and the participation of British companies in free trade zones on the territory of Bulgaria. The sides stated their interest and readiness for expansion of trade exchanges on the basis of diversification of bilateral trade with priority utilization of contemporary forms of economic cooperation. Among the sectors of cooperation between the two countries, particular attention was paid to electronics, biotechnology, chemical industry and agriculture. The two ministers discussed the possibilities for cooperation in training managing staff to meet the requirements of Bulgaria's economy.

Mr Alan Clark was received by Mr Georgi Atanasov, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and conferred with Mr Petur Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs, with Mr Andrey Lukanov, minister of foreign economic relations, with Mr Stoyan Ovcharov, minister of the economy and planning, and with Mr Ognyan Doynov, president of the Heavy Engineering Association.

Trade, Payments Protocol Signed With PDRK

AU140936 Sofia BTA in English
0853 GMT 14 Apr 88

["Bulgaria, DPRK Promote Trade"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 14 (BTA)—A protocol was signed yesterday on the countertrade and payments between Bulgaria and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for 1988.

It provides for Bulgaria to deliver to the DPRK ice trucks and spare parts for them, computing machinery, lorries, central telephone exchanges, chemical products, fertilizers, medicines, plant oil and consumer goods.

The DPRK will export to Bulgaria machines and equipment, instruments, different kinds of steels, non-ferrous metals, chemical products, raw materials for food products, essential oils, magnesium clinker and consumer goods.

Aleksandrov Attends Envoy's Reception

AU141922 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian
1900 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] In Sofia this evening Ha Tong-yun, the PDRK ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Bulgaria, gave a cocktail party to mark the 76th birthday of Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Korean Workers Party and president of the PDRK. The reception was attended by Comrade Chudomir Aleksandrov, members of the government, responsible officials of the BCP Central Committee, leaders of sociopolitical organizations, eminent figures in culture and the arts, and chiefs and members of the diplomatic missions accredited in Bulgaria.

The cocktail party was held in a cordial, friendly atmosphere.

Zhivkov Condolences on Papaioannou's Death

AU141343 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO
in Bulgarian 13 Apr 88 p 1

[Text] Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee, BCP Central Committee and chairman of the State Council, sent a telegram to the Central Committee of the Restorative Party of Working People [AKEL], expressing most sincere and fraternal condolences on the occasion of the death of the party's general secretary.

We knew Ezekias Papaioannou as a loyal son of the Cypriot workers class, as an ardent patriot, and experienced internationalist, who since his early youth, devoted his life to the struggle of the working people for freedom and social progress, who worked in the mines of Cyprus, fought in the ranks of the British workers and in the flames of the Spanish Civil War, participated in the struggles for the independence of Cyprus and for the protection of the Republic of Cyprus, the telegram states.

Closely linked with his people's destinies, with their most sacred aspirations, in his function as AKEL general secretary, he devoted all his efforts and energies to the development of his party and to its transformation into the most influential political force in your country.

As a sincere friend with whom we were linked by personal acquaintance and friendship, Ezekias Papaioannou worked for the consolidation of comradeship and cooperation between the BCP and AKEL, between the Bulgarian and Cypriot peoples.

The telegram also conveys profound feelings of sympathy to the family and close friends of the deceased.

Zhivkov Sends Condolences to Pakistan

AU141002 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO
in Bulgarian 13 Apr 88 p 8

[Text] Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the State Council, has sent a telegram to Mohammad Ziaul Haq, president of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, in which he expresses sincere condolences on the occasion of the tragic incident of 10 April 1988 which caused loss of human life and destruction.

The telegram conveys sincere feelings of sympathy to the families of the victims.

Mladenov Congratulates PRC Foreign Minister

AU141009 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO
in Bulgarian 13 Apr 88 p 2

[Text] Petur Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs, has sent a telegram of congratulations to Qian Qichen, minister of foreign affairs of the PRC, on the occasion of his election to this post.

Conference on Balkan Christianity Opens

AU141259 Sofia BTA in English
1058 GMT 14 Apr 88

["The Christian Balkan Peoples in the Ottoman Period"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 14 (BTA)—An international "The Christian Balkan Peoples in the Ottoman Period 14th-19th CC" scientific conference was opened here today. The 3-day conference, held under the patronage of the Bulgarian Patriarch Maksim, head of the Holy Synod of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church, is attended by theologians from Bulgaria, Austria, the Soviet Union, the FRG, Britain, Yugoslavia, Romania, Greece and Hungary.

The three sections of the conference—"history", "culture," and "theology and ecumenism" will discuss questions related to the forms of resistance of the Bulgarian people against the policy of assimilation of the Ottoman conquerors, to the recording of the Islamization of the Balkans in Ottoman state documents, to the spiritual and cultural aid rendered by Orthodox Russia to the Bulgarians in their struggle against the Ottoman conquerors and to the role of the Orthodox religion in the preservation of the Bulgarian nationality over the centuries-long Ottoman rule.

The opening of the conference was attended by Patriarch Maksim and by Deputy Foreign Minister Lyubomir Popov, chairman of the Committee on Affairs of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church and the Religious Denominations.

Husak Returns From Visit to USSR 14 Apr

LD142229 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1800 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Excerpts] Gustav Husak, president of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, has ended his official friendly visit to the Soviet Union and returned to the homeland. [passage omitted]

Husak is being greeted by CPCZ Central Committee General Secretary Milos Jakes. Federal Premier Lubomir Strougal also is present to welcome him, as is Federal Assembly Chairman Alois Indra, and Ignac Janak, leading secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, and other representatives of our political and public life. [passage omitted] Accompanied by Defense Minister Milan Vaclavik, Gustav Husak is paying homage to a combat banner.

President Gustav Husak is now coming to the front of the air terminal to be greeted by other guests. CPCS Central Committee department heads, deputy chairman and ministers of the federal government, representatives of the Federal Assembly and the Czech National Council, generals of the Czechoslovak People's Army, and representatives of the capital city are here to welcome him. [passage omitted]

Comrade Gustav Husak is returning from a visit for which the adjective, friendly, is not merely an official diplomatic formula. He is returning from talks with close friends, with Comrades Mikhail Gorbachev, Andrey Gromyko, and other representatives from both the central bodies in Moscow and those in Uzbekistan. In discussions of topical issues in the political world, a complete identity of views was heard in the Soviet Union in the evaluation of the present-day situation in Europe and throughout the world.

Let us recall that during his visit to the Soviet Union, Comrade Gustav Husak was awarded the highest Soviet order: the Order of Lenin. The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium thus praised the services of the Czechoslovak president in the development of friendship between the two countries and peoples, as well as his great personal contribution to the strengthening of peace and socialism. [passage omitted]

Joint Communique Issued

PM141645 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 88 First Edition pp 1, 6

["Joint Communique on the Official Friendly Visit to the USSR of G. Husak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and CSSR President"]

[Text] Gustav Husak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and CSSR president, paid an official friendly visit to the Soviet Union 11 through 14 April 1988 at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, received G. Husak. During the talks a high assessment was made of the state of relations between the CPSU and the CPCZ and between the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia, and there was a thorough exchange of opinions on questions of the two countries' socioeconomic development and of strengthening their cooperation in the cause of deepening and consolidating positive trends in the international situation. M.S. Gorbachev spoke of the CPSU's great work connected with the preparations for the 19th All-Union Party Conference, which will examine questions connected with the implementation of restructuring, the improvement of the Soviet Union's political system, and the realization of the plans of the current 5-year plan.

On behalf of the CPCZ leadership and Czechoslovakia's Communists and working people the CSSR president expressed full support for the innovative domestic and foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state and provided information on the realization of the strategic line of the 17th CPCZ Congress aimed at accelerating the CSSR's socioeconomic development and deepening socialist democracy in all spheres of social life. He familiarized M.S. Gorbachev with the decisions of the CPCZ Central Committee April (1988) Plenum, which confirmed the policy of restructuring and the democratization of society and the mobilization of the entire party to ensure this.

A.A. Gromyko, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman, held talks with G. Husak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and CSSR president.

Participating in the talks were:

On the Soviet side—E.A. Shevardnadze, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR foreign minister; A.F. Ryuytel, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium deputy chairman; T.N. Menteshashvili, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium secretary; Colonel General B.A. Omelichev [not further identified]; N.F. Rubtsov, chief of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Secretariat; E.L. Kuzmin, chief of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium International Relations Department; V.V. Svirin, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Central European Socialist Countries Department; and V.P. Lomakin, USSR ambassador to the CSSR;

On the Czechoslovak side—Bohuslav Chnoupek, CSSR foreign minister; Frantisek Salda, chief of the CSSR President's Chancellery; Lieutenant General Jiri Necas, chief of the CSSR President's Military Chancellery; Jan Havel, chief of a department of the CSSR President's Chancellery; Stanislav Suja, chief of the CSSR Foreign Minister's Secretariat; Libor Pecl, chief of the CSSR Foreign Ministry First Territorial Department; Emil Keblusek, chief of the CSSR Foreign Ministry International Problems Department; and Jindrich Rehorek, CSSR ambassador to the USSR.

G. Husak laid wreaths at the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Kremlin wall.

The CSSR president visited the Uzbek SSR, where he familiarized himself with the activity of the republic party organization and state organs in implementing the CPSU policy of restructuring and democratizing all spheres of social life.

During the talks and meetings, which were held in a spirit of frankness, fraternity, and complete mutual understanding, the sides briefed each other in detail on the progress in realizing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 17th CPCZ Congress.

The opinion was expressed that the radical economic reforms and processes of deepening the democratization of social life under way in our countries under the leadership of the CPSU and the CPCZ are similar in their directions and ultimate goals, which makes it possible to make more effective use of the experience accumulated in solving socioeconomic problems. They reaffirmed the full coincidence of their evaluations of the present crucial stage in socialist building which requires new approaches and decisions. Favorable possibilities for comprehensively deepening and improving Soviet-Czechoslovak relations and coordinating joint stands on the fundamental problems of socialist building and international policy have been created by the accords reached during the meeting between M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, and M. Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, in January 1988 in Moscow.

During the talks particular attention was devoted to the problems of economic and scientific and technical cooperation, deepening production specialization and cooperation, expanding direct production links between enterprises and other new forms of integrational cooperation, and improving the structure of reciprocal trade. These aims are served by the concept of economic and scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and the CSSR being worked out for the next 15-20 years, which will create a good basis for the dynamic development of bilateral ties, the achievement of leading positions in the most important areas of science, technology, and production, and the realization of the planned structural transformations in the economy of both countries.

There was reaffirmation of their intention to consistently implement practical measures to fulfill the decisions of the 43d (Extraordinary) Sitting of the CEMA Session, and to carry out purposeful work to improve the mechanism of socialist economic integration.

The sides believe that there are considerable unused reserves for imparting greater dynamism to cooperation in the ideological sphere and the fields of culture, education, and science, to contacts in the form of local and border ties between the creative intelligentsia and between young people, and to direct contact between people. The strengthening of fraternal friendship and the galvanization of ties in the spiritual sphere will be promoted by the formation of an intergovernmental commission for cooperation in culture, education, and science between the USSR and the CSSR and by the forthcoming opening of a CSSR cultural information center in Moscow.

During their discussion of international problems the sides reaffirmed their full unity of views in their assessment of the situation in Europe and the world as a whole. They expressed their determination to strengthen collaboration in international affairs and step up their joint efforts aimed at creating a comprehensive system of international peace and security, removing the nuclear threat, overcoming confrontation, and removing artificial barriers standing in the way of business cooperation.

They noted with satisfaction that the innovative, constructive policy imbued with deep concern for the fate of peace and the security of the peoples which is being pursued by the fraternal socialist countries is beginning to produce the first real results. The signing of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, which opens up prospects of the continuation of the disarmament process, is a clear sign of this. In this connection A.A. Gromyko informed the other side of progress made by the USSR Supreme Soviet in its discussion of the Soviet-U.S. treaty submitted for ratification. G. Husak briefed the Soviet side on progress made in the ratification of the treaty documents signed by the CSSR on inspections in connection with the Soviet-U.S. treaty. The sides emphasized that the early withdrawal of Soviet operational-tactical missiles-22 [OTR-22s] from the CSSR and the GDR with the consent of these countries' governments is convincing evidence of the socialist states' goodwill to advance the process of nuclear disarmament.

In the opinion of the two sides, the main task at present is the conclusion of an agreement between the USSR and the United States to halve their strategic offensive weapons while strictly abiding by the ABM Treaty in the form in which it was signed in 1972 and not to withdraw from this treaty for an agreed period. This accord would not simply be another step on the way to disarmament but would be a breakthrough in the general direction of a nuclear-free world.

The hope was expressed that the next Soviet-U.S. summit in Moscow will be as productive as M.S. Gorbachev's visit to Washington and will make a substantial contribution to improving the international situation as a whole.

The USSR and CSSR are in favor of the successful completion of the Soviet-U.S. talks on prohibiting nuclear weapon tests on the basis of the strictest verification measures, and also the multilateral talks on the complete prohibition and destruction of chemical weapons.

The sides condemned the plans NATO is working on to "compensate" for the nuclear armaments eliminated under the treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles as a serious danger to the prospect that has now emerged of reduced military confrontation in Europe. It was pointed out that while disarmament is taking place in one area the arms race cannot be allowed to develop in others. In this connection attention was drawn to the danger that would be posed by the intensification of the militarist component in West European integration processes.

In the course of a in-depth exchange of opinions on questions connected with safeguarding security and developing cooperation in Europe the sides stressed that they attach paramount significance to agreeing on a mandate for talks on reducing armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals and to starting the talks in 1988.

A.A. Gromyko declared full support for the important comprehensive initiative recently put forward by Czechoslovakia on creating a zone of trust, cooperation, and good-neighborly relations along the line of contact between the Warsaw Pact and NATO states. The implementation of this proposal would contribute to improving the overall political climate on the continent and developing the all-European process.

The sides confirmed their adherence to the concept of a "common European home" and advocated the speediest completion of the Vienna meeting of representatives of CSCE states on the basis of a substantive and balanced final document on military-political, trade and economic, ecological, scientific, humanitarian, and other aspects of security and cooperation on the continent.

They noted that respect for the current territorial and political realities and strict observance of the generally acknowledged principles and norms of international law are conditions of the maintenance of lasting peace and security in Europe.

During the discussion of the situation in other regions of the world grave concern was expressed at the escalation of the Iran-Iraq war and the situation in the Near East, Central America, and southern Africa, and there was confirmation of the firm resolve to actively contribute to the speediest political settlement of the seats of tension and conflicts existing in the world.

The sides welcomed the effort made to bring an Afghan settlement into the sphere of the achievement of final accords, and they noted the great contribution made to the elaboration of these accords by the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan. It was particularly emphasized that it is the exlusive prerogative of the Afghans themselves to deal with intra-Afghan affairs.

During the visit an agreement was signed between the USSR and CSSR Governments on the creation and activity of a CSSR cultural information center in the Soviet Union, along with a protocol on setting up an intergovernmental commission on cooperation in the sphere of culture, education, and science between the USSR and the CSSR. A protocol was also signed on cooperation between the two countries' foreign ministries.

G. Husak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and CSSR President, conveyed to A.A. Gromyko, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, an invitation to pay an official friendly visit to the CSSR. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

The official friendly visit to the USSR by G. Husak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and CSSR president, has contributed to further deepening comprehensive collaboration and strengthening the friendship and cooperation between our countries and peoples and has been an important contribition to the development of Soviet-Czechoslovak relations.

Foreign Ministry Hails Afghan Accords

LD141734 Prague CTK in English
1500 GMT 14 Apr 88

["Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry's Statement on Afghanistan"—CTK headline]

[Text] Prague April 14 (CTK)—The favourable development in the six-year long indirect talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan in Geneva is especially the result of the principled approach of the Soviet Union and Afghanistan in the interest of the just political solution of the situation around Afghanistan, Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry Spokesman Dusan Rovensky said today.

He pointed out the significance of the accords signed today by Afghanistan and Pakistan under the guarantee of the Soviet Union and the United States, stressing the important role of the talks between Soviet Communist Party General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and Afghan Leader Najibullah in Tashkent on April 7.

The principled, realistic and flexible proposals which sprang from this meeting could not be further ignored either by the United States or Pakistan, he added.

"The accords are an expression of new thinking in international relations, an expression of political realism, and are aimed at the removal of one of the hotbeds of tension in the world. They will certainly meet with positive response of all countries and forces which wish real peace, security and cooperation in Afghanistan and the region".

"The signing of the Geneva accords means a basic turn in the development of the situation around Afghanistan, creating favourable conditions for strengthening peace, security and cooperation in the whole area, for an overall improvement of present international relations. All sides involved must now show maximum goodwill, statesmanlike wisdom and responsibility and thus contribute to consistent implementation of the adopted documents", the Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

He stressed that Czechoslovakia fully and unambiguously supports the results of the Geneva talks. "We sincerely wish the accords to be successfully introduced into life. It would be a historical mistake not to use the favourable prerequisites for the definitive liquidation of this hotbed of tension. The accords represent a great contribution to strengthening peace and security in Asia and the world over", Dusan Rovensky concluded.

Commentator Rejects Terrorism, Hijackings

AU141135 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
11 Apr 88 p 6

[Miroslav Madr commentary in the "Notes" column: "Deformity of Terrorism"]

[Text] Reports from Larnaca airport are making our flesh creep. The increasing tension resulting from the hijacking of a Kuwaiti aircraft (the affair has become unbelievably protracted) is commensurate with this. Only with difficulty can we find a similar case in the past. In this situation we begin to think back to events in the autumn of 1977, when a hijacked West German Lufthansa plane wandered for days from place to place in the Middle East and in Africa, before coming to a tragic end. The present hijacking, too, has already claimed a victim.

The terrorists—reports speak of seven people—succeeded in boarding the aircraft flying from Bangkok to Kuwait on Tuesday [5 April]. They are now demanding the release of several prisoners, sentenced in Kuwait for a series of bomb attacks which led to the deaths of six people; for this purpose they are issuing one ultimatum after another. Let us also recall the "stopover" in Mashhad, Iran; the refusal to allow the aircraft to land in Beirut and Damascus; and the landing in Larnaca, where the hijackers are threatening "to slowly assassinate" the passengers.

How to proceed at the present moment? The psychological pressure on the governments involved (including, for instance, the British Government, since the passengers on board include British citizens) is extraordinary. Should one yield to pressure, should one fulfill the terrorists' demands and thus (perhaps) save the lives of innocent people? Or should one continue to maintain a firm stand, so as to prevent a "precedent"? No, it is not easy to make a decision on this matter. The situation is naturally complicated by the fact that those on board include three members of the Kuwait emir's family. Moreover, the purely "technical" aspect of life in a hijacked aircraft (the sleepless nights, when death can come at any moment; the problems with food; and so forth) cannot be ignored, either.

The terrorists are hiding behind their goal, which is the release of prisoners who (in their view) have been unjustly incarcerated. This is a false pretence, a tragically bogus one. We are opposed to hijackings, regardless of the goal they hide behind (even if it is a political goal). Terrorism does not belong in our world, especially not on air routes interconnecting this world. The substance of terrorism lies in deformed thinking, in contempt for human lives. That is why it is particularly necessary to act sharply against it—and to be unanimous in this, at least by adhering to the principle that a state which apprehends hijackers is to hand them over to the country where they belong. To be sure, we ourselves have bitter memories of precisely this kind of situation.

West Seen Misusing Religion for Political Ends

LD141400 Prague in Czech to Europe
2230 GMT 13 Apr 88

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] On Tuesday in Bratislava Peter Colotka, premier of the Slovak SR, received representatives of Catholic clergy in Slovakia. The open dialogue concerned all questions of relations between the socialist state and the church; that is, questions which are so often the subject of the most varied speculation and attacks from Western propaganda agencies. The following commentary considers the position of the churches in Czechoslovakia:

The aim of all provocation campaigns which have recently gone from verbal attacks to organizing the most varied provocative actions is nothing but an effort to misuse religious feeling for clearly political anti-Czechoslovak goals, to set the believers against our state policy, to gnaw at the unity of the people and nations, and to complicate the resolution of current issues.

Let us ask, then: What is the position of churches and believers in socialist Czechoslovakia? It is no doubt of interest that this week representatives of the U.S. magazine TIME asked this question to Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee. I propose, Milos Jakes said, that you find out for yourselves. You will see that there are almost 8,000 cathedrals, churches, and meeting halls for the services of believers, that 18 Czechoslovak churches and religious societies live their religious lives. Religion in our country is the private affair of every citizen. We do not have statistics about believers but according to sociological studies their numbers are falling, which is after all characteristic for the majority of developed countries. End quote.

The editors of TIME and all visitors to Czechoslovakia can find proof of other facts, about the truth about the publishing of religious literature, about the teaching of religion in schools and religious faculties. Could, for example, under conditions of religious restriction, a publication about the visit by an American preacher, Billy Graham, to Czechoslovakia be issued by the United Brethren, the Baptists? Would the socialist state spend Kcs 200 million a year on the upkeep and renovation of church property? Everyone can also see that clergy and believers have the same rights as other Czechoslovak citizens: free health and complete care, pension rights, and so on. The Czechoslovak state values the work of believers, their participation in the building and development of socialism. This was and is emphasized at various opportunities.

That is what Slovak Premier Peter Colotka was also speaking about yesterday. And most believers and church representatives are concerned with creating good mutual relations in the form of dialogue, and they are concerned about filling our social and international life with a clean and peaceful atmosphere. At the same time they appreciate, as was confirmed once again yesterday at the Bratislava meeting by the Catholic clergy, the state organs' constructive approach to solving problems which are connected with the creation of conditions for the satisfaction of the religious needs of the churches and believing fellow citizens. And this is an answer to all those who wish to misuse religious feeling for political ends.

Vatican Radio Airs Clerics Appeals to Colotka

LD062315 Vatican City International Service in Slovak 1745 GMT 6 Apr 88

[Text] We have already informed you about the wave of protests evoked abroad by the forceful police dispersion of the peaceful demonstration of believers in Bratislava for the freedom of religion.

In Czechoslovakia too, two representatives of believers have made their reaction known: Cardinal Tomasek in an interview to a journalist from a Vienna daily KURRIER said, among other things, that the Bratislava demonstration of believers was a step forward to freedom of religion but its forcible dispersion by the police was a misstep on the part of the authorities. In the future the government would have to act more deliberately, and he added that it was laymen's duty to demonstrate for their rights. The claim of the state authorities that the demonstration was organized with political aims was only a pretext for some members of the party in Cardinal Tomasek's view.

Father Bishop Jan Korec has sent the following letter to Slovak Premier Colotka:

Esteemed Mr Prime Minister. As a believing citizen and a dedicated worker I am turning to you about the event which people have already named as the Bratislava Good Friday: A 30-minute gathering of believers in front of the national theater in which they wanted to express, by lighted candles and prayers, their devotion to the church and their wish that after decades it would finally attain bishops for all dioceses, and also other necessary rights that had been demanded already in the whole Czechoslovak Republic by over 400,000 citizens by their signatures.

Whatever the views today on the suitability or unsuitability of this quiet gathering of believers, one thing is certain: Believers taking part in it behaved with dignity and prayed and thus showed that they want to manifest their wishes peacefully. Many of the participants knew only that the assembly was properly announced to the authorities. If the authorities allegedly expressed a concern whether peace would be preserved, believers showed beyond all doubts that they preserved peace thoroughly.

The behavior of the police toward the assembly was, however, shocking. Not only did they not protect peace and order, but they used against the gathering of believers—men, women, boys, and girls—heavy water trucks used for street cleaning, and at the roar of the trucks' horns started to beat the praying people with truncheons indiscriminately. Eye witnesses say that policemen beat a 70-year-old man to the ground with a truncheon, kicked a woman—a mother—and beat girls with clubs. They used the waterhoses connected to the trucks against believers. Then they knocked over believers with a water cannon.

It was shocking to hear a man in uniform give the order: Beat them. And the members of the security forces did beat them. They even beat the British correspondent on the head. Eye witnesses' testimonies are available.

Slovakia is indignant, Europe shocked. A wave of protests arose in the world—all the more so because these were deliberate, prepared and ordered brutal deeds.

The whole world speaks out for black men in South Africa and Palestinians in Gaza who demonstrate for their demands and sometimes stones are thrown and cars are set on fire there.

Our papers call it a fight for a just cause. How greatly would the world condemn a police attack against those black men or Palestinians, should they gather to voice their demands through a quiet prayer with candles in their hands. This would not only be inhuman but repulsive. But this was the very behavior of the police in Bratislava on 25 March 1988, when they attacked belivers in the middle of their prayer, changed the quiet 30-minute gathering to a one-sided battle, started to beat believer—women, men, and girls—on their heads with truncheons, and threw many people into police cars. The least intelligent policeman present could see then and there that girls with rosaries or candles in their hands were not a threat either to Bratislava or Europe.

Although I did not intend to take a direct part in this prayer gathering I am very sorry that I was not among those admirable believers who were inhumanly beaten for quietly expressing faith and devotion to the church. When leaving home for church, an hour before the gathering, the police stopped me in the name of the law, under threat of force, and unlawfully detained me for 2 and 1/2 hours at a public security building. This was why I could not even be near the believers who sufered for professing their faith.

Two days later on Sunday we all heard in churches the same words of the gospel: The Lord gave me the mission of a sufferer, and I did not resist. I did not recede. I exposed my back to those who beat me. I did not cover my face from disparagement and saliva. We heard other words too: The Lord helps me and therefore I will not be disgraced. Therefore I hardened my face as much as a flint.

The Bratislava Good Friday has not frightened believers in our country. How long will such things go on? This is what the current representative of believers, Cardinal Tomasek, has said.

The unjustified brutality will, however, became a historical shame for those who abused their power against powerless people.

As a reply of the faith to this violence, young believers decided after the event to fast during the whole of holy week [Velky Tyzden] on bread and water and sacrifice this also for the people who had done wrong to them. In this way they showed their Christian thinking and showed the way to a conciliatory spirit.

If in any democratic country of the world some public officials abused their power against citizens in the same way as happened on 25 March in Bratislava, they would have to leave their offices within an hour. This was also said in our country by many honest and sensible people, many officials of organizations, high public officials and nonbelievers.

Mr Premier. It is in you power to put right at least something regarding what had happened and what should not have happened. It it within your authority to have the whole case investigated, to draw consequences from it and to have the general public at home and abroad informed about it.

[signed] Yours respectfully,

Jan Korec

Jakes Interviewed by TIME Magazine

AU140601 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 12 Apr 88 p 3

["M. Jakes' Interview With TIME Magazine"]

[Text] Prague (CTK)—The editorial office of the U.S. magazine TIME asked Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, for an interview.

On 6 April Comrade Milos Jakes received Henry Muller, managing editor of TIME; Karsten Prager, editor of TIME INTERNATIONAL; John F. Stacks, chief of correspondents; and Kenneth Banta, East European correspondent, at the CPCZ Central Committee Headquarters in Prague.

Milos Jakes: I welcome you at the CPCZ Central Committee. I have written answers to the questions you sent, and I am also ready to have a conversation with you.

Henry Muller: Mr General Secretary, I would like to thank you in my name and in the name of my colleagues who have come from New York for having taken time for us and, in particular, I would like to thank you for the attention that you devoted to working out replies to our written questions.

The American journalists received from Comrade Milos Jakes the following replies to their previously submitted questions:

[TIME] You have taken up your new post after almost 20 years under the leadership of your predecessor, Gustav Husak, and have already called for an accelerated introduction of a program of reforms in Czechoslovakia. Why are fundamental reforms necessary at this particular time, and how will your policy differ from the policy asserted in Czechoslovakia in the past two decades?

[Jakes] As you know, in our country we recently commemorated the 40th anniversary of victorious February 1948, when our working people decided to build their country on socialist foundations. We have scored a number of successes in this period, which are acknowledged even abroad. We gauge all our results by how the working people and all citizens live. Not only in the material sense, albeit that is decisive, but also from the viewpoint of wealth and standards of living in a broader sense of the word, in the sense that, without regard for differences in their standing in society, people have broad access to spiritual values and can realize themselves in diverse ways. Generally speaking, socialism has brought a solid standard of living to all, I stress, to all groups of the population. We value the fact that people enjoy firm social and legal guarantees in our country, that unemployment, exploitation, and extreme social differences do not exist here. The standard of provisions for young families with children is good, we have low rents, communal services, and public transportation. It is unthinkable for young people not to find commensurate employment after finishing school or apprenticeship. One result of socialist building is the profound democratization of education and culture. Our people are educated and culturally advanced, have broad horizons, are self-confident as citizens and members of society, and make full use of all human rights.

We hold in esteem the results that have been achieved by our industrious people in the past years. However, at the same time we would like to advance faster and deal with problems that have piled up and which result primarily from the insufficient performance of the economy, from low effectiveness in applying the advances of scientific-technical progress. We want people in our country to lead an even better and contented life. For this to happen, it is necessary to speed up socioeconomic development and make better use of the advantages of socialism. These issues were dealt with by the 17th CPCZ Congress, which outlined the main avenues of our activity in the new stage of the development of socialism. On the basis of a critical assessment of the state of society, a program of reforms, which you have referred to, has been drawn up, the gist of which is the restructuring of the economic mechanism and of the entire life of society and the deepening of socialist democracy. This is what is new compared with the last two decades.

The changes are necessitated by a whole set of external and internal causes. We find ourselves at a turning point in history when socialism needs to be improved and strengthened, upgraded to a new qualitative level, and its appeal at home and abroad increased. This is a strategy which our people unequivocally support, a strategy for the implementation of which we have the political and social prerequisites, the necessary production and scientific potentials, and requisite experience. This justifies our confidence that we shall be able to fulfill our current tasks, even though they are great and difficult and revolutionary in their scope and importance.

I would like to stress that we are not alone in taking this path, that we make broad use of the experiences of the Soviet Communists and people, as well as of the experiences of other socialist countries that are tackling similar tasks. We also draw on some ideas and experiences from the development of capitalist economies, including the U.S. economy.

[TIME] You have said that Czechoslovakia must take its own path of reforms. What specific economic and political changes have the highest priority, in your opinion, and when will they be introduced? How do they resemble the changes being carried out in the Soviet Union, and how do they differ from them?

[Jakes] I have not said categorically that we are taking our own path of reforms. On principal issues we proceed together with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, along the path of restructuring and democratization. Naturally, we have different, specific conditions in many ways. We have our own cultural and historical traditions, our own course of historical development, our own economic proportions and results, people's habits, mentality, and experiences are different, the forms of the political system are different, and so forth. Nevertheless, there exists a similar quality of tasks and requirements concerning further development. The main targets of "perestroyka" [preceding word in Russian], of restructuring in the Soviet Union, in our country, and in other socialist states, are identical.

Great attention is now paid to economic reform. The predominantly directive methods of management will be replaced with economic ones, and in conjunction with this the content, forms, and methods of planning will change to better suit the requirements of intensification, to pave the way for the application of the results of scientific-technical development and for a still greater involvement of Czechoslovakia in the international division of labor. A more efficient use is to be made of commodity-monetary relations, the law of value, and all functions of the socialist market, which must orient production toward the satisfaction of people's needs. We are preparing the restructuring of wholesale and procurement prices, which will go into force at the beginning of next year. They should better express costs and move closer to world prices. Part and parcel of the economic reform are reduction of the administrative intensity of the management process, the organizational restructuring of central agencies and of the production base, and the transition to a two-tier management, with the ministry and the enterprise as the only tiers.

Our concern is to expand the powers, but also the responsibility, of enterprises and to increase the participation of people in their management. That is why enterprises will operate on the basis of economic accountability, self-financing, and socialist self-management. The role of cooperatives, which have rich traditions in our country, fulfill important tasks in services and in manufacturing, and also constitute the foundation of our agriculture, ensuring the largest part of its production, will grow further. These questions are codified in the legal sense in the draft laws on state enterprises and agricultural and non-agricultural cooperatives, which have been comprehensively assessed in a public debate, in which millions of citizens took part, making over 100,000 comments and suggestions. Right now a public debate is taking place on the principles of labor code amendments. The principles of the new economic mechanism are now being tested by experimentation in one-quarter of the enterprises and are being gradually introduced. From the beginning of the Ninth Five-Year Plan, that is, from the year 1991, the national economy should operate fully according to these principles.

Economic reform is part of the restructuring of the entire social life, which is aimed, as I have already said, at a broad application of self-management by citizens on a scale which is objectively not possible in a capitalist society. Labor collectives' councils are to be set up to collectively decide on all conceptual issues concerning the enterprises' development and on the distribution of profits. Several directors who have been elected by the workers themselves already work in our national economy.

Restructuring is comprehensive in nature and concerns, therefore, in addition to the economy, politics, ideology, culture, education, all spheres of the life of society. At its heart is the further expansion of socialist democracy, of people's participation in decisionmaking on questions concerning the development of the country in which they live. This naturally also includes "glasnost" [preceding word in Russian], or, as we call it, public information and a policy of openness.

[TIME] To what measure do economic reforms have to be accompanied by changes in the political structure? Do you advocate a changed role for the Communist Party, to the extent that political power should also be extended to groups that are not connected with the party?

[Jakes] As for the political structure, or political system, to be more accurate, it will remain a socialist one. History has convinced us that the leading role of the party is the basis of a successful development of socialism. That role, however, must be correctly applied, the creative abilities of the people must be mobilized and united in the interest of the development and prosperity of society.

Our aim is to extend the participation of citizens in the making, implementation, and control of politics. In this we see the essence of socialism. This presupposes that, among other things, the full application of the elements of self-management in the work of national committees, which were set up in Czechoslovakia right after liberation in 1945, represent the foundation of people's power in cities and villages, districts and regions, and provide the organizational basis for the genuine application of direct democracy. At the same time we seek further activation and use of broad democratic potentials in the work of the National Front as the basis of our political system, which includes, in addition to the CPCZ, four other political parties and a number of social and special-interest organizations. Hundreds of associations work actively in our country. This represents a strong and broad base, which permits citizens to fully assert their interests and realize their civil and political freedoms.

The program of democratization is not a mere campaign for us, but a concrete concept aimed also at removing bureaucratic barriers, unnecessary centralization, and so forth. In this we proceed from the tested fact that the greatest strength of socialism rests in people themselves, in their ability and willingness to decide in an independent way about matters that concern them. Therein, too, lies virtual identity with restructuring in the Soviet Union.

As we are carrying out changes of principle in society at large, such changes must also occur in the party itself. Our interview takes place immediately before an important session of the CPCZ Central Committee, at which we will discuss precisely questions concerning the party's activity in the conditions of restructuring the economic mechanism and democratization. It is important that the party should fulfill well the role of a programmer of social development and organizer of the attainment of set targets, that it should through its ideological activity help create a healthy atmosphere in society. However, at the same time it should not supplant the powers of state and economic agencies but exercise its influence by political means and by the personal example of every Communist.

The party as the leading force of society cooperates within the National Front with the other political parties, with the trade unions, the youth organization, and a number of other organizations associating workers, farmers, as well as members of the intelligentsia. As for the political system, I believe that the problem is not in its model but in the use of the concrete possibilities it offers. This is why we are paying paramount attention to releasing people's activity so that they more actively express and push through their legitimate interests and so that socialist pluralism finds its specific expression in a broad democratic discussion, in which every responsible voice, either of approval or of constructive criticism, is taken into consideration.

[TIME] What is the lesson from the attempts at reform in Czechoslovakia in 1968 and from the subsequent intervention by the Warsaw Pact? Does the party reexamine these events and, if so, what conclusions does it draw?

[Jakes] I see no reason why we should evaluate the events of the years 1968-69 in a different way from the documents, which your readers probably did not have a chance to study in great detail. That is why I would like to recall that, even though our society was advancing further in the sixties, some alarming phenomena also began to emerge at that time, such as subjectivist and voluntarist assessments of economic and social processes, serious shortcomings in ideological work, clinging to inefficient and outdated methods of party activity, and inconsistency in enforcing adopted measures. These issues and problems were justifiably raised in the year 1968, I am thinking primarily of the January session of the CPCZ Central Committee. Had we managed to resolve these problems at that time, we would have been farther in our development today.

Unfortunately, through the fault of the party leadership at that time, which was weak and disunited, the program of revival was not implemented in 1968. Instead, the party leadership by its policies opened the way for antisocialist forces in society, enabling them to attack the foundations of socialism, the political and economic power of the working people, that is, the substance of the revolution which triumphed in Czechoslovakia 40 years ago. A serious crisis in the party and society arose, jeopardizing the political and social stability of our country and its ties of alliance. At that difficult time the fraternal countries extended to us effective assistance. It is necessary to distinguish between terms: What took place was international assistance in the interest of saving socialism, in the interest of the people of our country, not an intervention.

I realize that these issues are again being discussed in the West, and, evidently, will continue to be discussed. The most frequent subject of these debates is the quest for a parallel between the developments in Czechoslovakia then and the current restructuring in the Soviet Union or in our country. I want to say that we see the only parallel in the fact that many similar issues were raised at that time. The method of their solution has nothing in common with the present. As a matter of fact, mechanical comparisons between individual phenomena without due regard for the specific historical conditions never bring true understanding of them.

[TIME] Many economists claim that the reform of a centralized economy such as that of Czechoslovakia must entail unpopular and potentially destabilizing changes, such as unemployment, great income differentials, personal taxation, and an end to subsidies for everyday goods. Are you willing to introduce such changes? If you do, which of them are the most important and when do you expect their introduction?

[Jakes] A tested principle of a Communist Party's activity is internal party democracy and the collectiveness of adopted decisions. That is why what an individual intends to do or introduce cannot be decisive. When I speak about what we want and do not want to implement, I am expressing the opinion of our party leadership, of the CPCZ Central Committee, with which I fully identify personally.

But let me now get to the point. We are not of the opinion that the restructuring of the economic mechanism will cause, for instance, unemployment. This is confirmed by serious scientific analyses, which speak of the tremendous possibilities and need to develop the tertiary sphere, the sector of retailing and services, which is vastly understaffed in our country. Vacancies exist here for more than a million people released from the traditional branches of industry. We are also planning further development of tourism; our country has a considerable concentration of tourist sights and other cultural assets and the opportunity to welcome a far greater number of tourists. Here, too, we will require large numbers of qualified manpower. We want to make it possible for mothers of small children at home to spend more time bringing up their children, while receiving support from the state; we will also gradually take steps to cut working hours, and so forth. In short, the specter of unemployment is not hovering above us. The social ownership of the means of production and the corresponding method of distribution, along with the planned nature of the economy's development, enable us to tackle these issues. This is what socialism has clearly proved during its existence.

We reckon with extensive changes in the structure of the national economy, in the process of which we will not be able to avoid changes in the composition of manpower in terms of qualification. This is an absolutely essential, yet simultaneously unpopular, measure, which, although people's existence will not suffer from it, will disrupt people's routine and, temporarily, may even cause discomfort. A number of people will have to go work elsewhere, possibly even have to move elsewhere, and some people will need retraining, the costs of which will be paid by the state, which will also assume responsibility for people's further employment. However, everyone will have work. The real right to work, to the free assertion and development of creative capabilities, is and shall remain one of the basic gains of socialism.

As far as prices or, to be more accurate, price subsidies are concerned, we are not considering their general elimination. But the question of subsidies also has another aspect, which concerns the reduction of production costs. Not all products that we subsidize today really have to be subsidized at the present level; the subsidies for a number of products would be scrapped altogether if they were produced more economically and efficiently. The rationalization of manufacturing costs and the adaptation to the world market and its parameters—this is one path we must pursue with much greater vigor. The prerequisites for this are created by the restructuring of the economic mechanism.

We are also strongly determined to differentiate earnings according to the results of work. This is at the heart of social justice under socialism. It should be openly said that the situation in our country is far from perfect in this regard, the deeply rooted egalitarian psychology is still having its negative impact. We must overcome it by both economic instruments and economic enlightenment and education. Every citizen's standard of living must more markedly depend on the results of his work for society. He who delivers more than is his basic duty must enjoy a better life than he who is only a mediocre worker and a much better life still than he who abuses the right to work and tries to make money by illicit means, without earning it by his labor. This is honest and just, appropriate for socialism, and it is what we seek.

[TIME] Recently you called for the formation of a zone of confidence along NATO's border with the Warsaw Pact. What specifically do you propose and what role should Czechoslovakia play?

[Jakes] The proposal of our party and our state must be assessed in conjunction with a number of major foreign policy initiatives advanced by the Warsaw Pact member states, which are an expression of new political thinking and of the endeavor to set up a comprehensive system of international security as enforced by the Soviet Union and Comrade Gorbachev personally. Our premise is that at the present time it is impossible to ensure reliable peace and security solely by military measures. We therefore propose to achieve a new level in political, economic, cultural, and inter-human contacts.

Distrust cannot be overcome by political declarations alone, but by thousands of ties of good neighborly relations, which will also permit better mutual knowledge and will guarantee that no side will ever be able to persuade its citizens about the other side's obdurate enmity. It could even be said that the essence of our proposal is to have millions of people take into their hands the guarantees for the policy of good neighborliness, which until now have been practically only in the hands of politicians. Connected with this is also a further expansion of direct contacts between people, of tourism, cultural, educational, and sports exchanges, and the like.

Certain progress has recently been achieved in our relations with the FRG and Austria. We appreciate this and are convinced that this is a good basis for further and more pronounced headway. All-round cooperation between countries with different social systems is the basic factor in reinforcing peace and security and we do not conceal that it is precisely peace that we inevitably need to accomplish our targets. As a matter of fact, people in the United States and all over the world surely long for peace. We hold the following view: Socialism and capitalism exist next to each other and not a meaningless arms race but only real economic and social achievements can demonstrate, in a long-term historical competition, which system is better for man. I know that the Americans love sports. Let me therefore say that what we are aiming at is the honest observance of previously agreed rules, fair play, elimination of all dirty tricks, brutality, and primitivism [primitivismus]. The whole world can only benefit from such competition.

In the course of a subsequent conversation, the TIME representatives then asked Comrade Milos Jakes additional questions.

They inquired about the public's preparedness for the restructuring of the economic mechanism.

Comrade Milos Jakes stressed that the overwhelming majority of honest people, of good laborers, support the changes. They see in their implementation a contribution to our country and to themselves and they see in them greater social justice. It is natural that some people will be unpleasantly affected by restructuring. There are people in our country who have become used to receiving much money for little work. They will definitely not be satisfied. The basic necessities of life are guaranteed in our country. But, naturally, people's needs are growing and the point now is to satisfy them in better quality. This makes it necessary for the growth of standards of living to depend much more distinctly on the results of work. What matters is consistent enforcement of the principle of socialism: to everyone according to the quantity and quality of work done.

Asked about his assessment of the risk of political instability being brought about by restructuring and democratization, Milos Jakes said that whenever big changes take place, the risk of negative phenomena also arises. The CPCZ has drawn lessons from the experiences of 1968. They imply that the party as the leading force of society must not lose control over the development of the situation. What does this mean? It means to raise in time issues with which the people are preoccupied, give clear answers to them, and to carry out what has been said. After all, every sensible person recognizes what is correct, what is good for our country and its people.

Today, for example, there is much talk in the West about an alleged absence of religious freedom in Czechoslovakia. I invite you, Milos Jakes said, to go and see for yourselves. You will see that almost 8,000 cathedrals, churches, and houses of prayer serve the needs of believers in our country, that eighteen churches and religious communities lead their religious life here. Faith is a private affair of every citizen in our country. We keep no registers of believers. According to sociological surveys, however, their number is declining, which is after all characteristic of most developed countries. It is another thing that you will find individuals, some of whom are not even believers themselves, who try to misuse religion for political aims, to destabilize society. These actions are organized from abroad, primarily on radio waves, and have nothing in common with serving God. Their aim is to artificially create problems in relations between believers and our state. The overwhelming majority of citizens, including believers, have nothing in common with this and disapprove of it.

There is also much talk about the filling of vacant bishoprics. We have a single condition in this respect: that the appointed dignitaries be genuinely respected representatives of the church who enjoy the confidence of believers, are loyal to their state, and act in harmony with valid laws. After all, they are Czechoslovak citizens.

Is this not precisely a problem that is brought forth by restructuring and by reforms?

I would not say, Comrade Milos Jakes replied, that this is directly connected with restructuring and democratization, although, naturally, glasnost, a policy of openness, and public information create favorable conditions for various issues to be brought forward. We are not opposed to this, we welcome and need it. However, what matters is with what intentions questions are brought forward. Who, for instance, is served by attempts to disorient our believers or by the activity of the so-called Charter 77? Some querulous persons [nespokojenci] at home and those people abroad who slander our system and seek to gain political capital from it. But this activity is of no benefit to millions of our people who need peace for their life and work.

Another question concerned the assessment of the year 1968 in Czechoslovakia. Was it bad or good?

Comrade Milos Jakes referred to his written answer and added that the year 1968 was bad in that the intentions of the party were not implemented. Room was opened for the activity of forces which managed to give the process of the revival of socialism an antisocialist character, disorient the people, and jeopardize the political stability of the state. One of the original and correct aims was to deepen socialist democracy. In fact, however, what followed was a period of "democracy turned upside down," in which everyone who disapproved of what antisocialist forces were spreading in the information media was mercilessly silenced. Anybody could be disgraced and accused of anything with impunity, it was difficult to stand up for him in public.

Given the circumstances at that time, would you have been in favor of Czechoslovakia settling its affairs on its own, without the participation of the Warsaw Pact states?

There is a clear answer to this, Milos Jakes said. Had Czechoslovakia been able to do so, it would have been the best solution. But the situation in our country was already too serious. It was impossible for Czechoslovakia to cope with it by its own means. Socialism in our country was facing a direct threat. Today the situation is different, both in Czechoslovakia and in other countries. We avail ourselves of enough possibilities to ensure a healthy development by our own means. This is, apart from other things, also a result of the lessons drawn from the events in Czechoslovakia in 1968.

At the close of the conversation, Mr Henry Muller once again conveyed thanks to Milos Jakes in the name of the American journalists for the friendly reception and frank talk and wished him good luck.

On this occasion he asked whether Milos Jakes derived pleasure from his work.

I do when it is going well, Milos Jakes replied and wished the American people, with whom Czechoslovakia wants to maintain good relations, much success. He stressed that having peace on our planet is a matter of great concern to the people in Czechoslovakia. This is the basic precondition for us to be able to meet, exchange views, and engage in beneficial cooperation.

Jakes Closing Speech at CPCZ Plenum

AU141249 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 11 Apr 88 p 2

["Closing Speech by Comrade M. Jakes," general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, at the Ninth Session of the CPCZ Central Committee, held in Prague on 9 April]

[Text] Esteemed Comrades, we are winding up an important session which, through the manner of its preparation and in its entire course, demonstrated the unity in the Central Committee's approach to key problems of party work and to deepening its leading role, under the conditions of restructuring the economic mechanism and developing socialist democracy. I am confident that I express the opinion of the entire Central Committee when I say that the conclusions adopted by the ninth plenum will become an important orientation for the party as a whole, for all its agencies and organizations in their quest for a turnabout in the content, style, and methods of party work with the aim of implementing the demanding tasks.

In the name of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium I would like to express thanks for your support and expression of approval for its activity since the last plenum, as well as for the support given to the proposals that were submitted to today's session.

The entire course of our deliberations, which followed up on the conclusions of the seventh session of the party Central Committee, and the rich discussion, in which, as has already been said, 30 comrades took the floor and voiced a number of stimulating ideas, which the Central Committee Presidium will assess, confirm that it was correct to discuss the important questions of party work under the conditions of restructuring and democratization. We highly regard the critical and self-critical tone that marked our session. This spirit must be carried into the whole party. This is the main prerequisite for a new and fresh breeze, as they say, to blow everywhere, for the struggle to have the implementation of the tasks that are ahead of us assume the required dynamism, and for all party organizations and all working people to take part in it.

This calls for the full development of the party's work in the spirit of Gottwald's tradition, in the spirit of his slogan "Facing the Masses," for consistent implementation of the Leninist principles of its internal life as contained in the party statutes, for democratization of its internal life, and thereby for reinforcement of the party's unity and for its increased ability to take action. This is the basic condition for the party to spearhead the process of restructuring and democratization that we have launched, and which is irreversible.

This requires the activity of the party as a whole, of the more than 1.7 million Communists, so that this great numerical strength is to be felt in society and so that party members and candidate members set an example in implementing the tasks of accelerating socioeconomic development, the tasks of restructuring and democratization. Our party is the fighting vanguard of the workers class and all people. It is essential for a Communist to discharge his work or official tasks and duties well. However, in addition he must also show political commitment, exercise his influence in labor collectives and in public, explain, defend, and enforce party policy, enlist people for it, and unmask all attempts to abuse restructuring and democratization, against the party and socialism. Only on this basis can the party's authority grow, and its influence on events in society strengthen. This requires that Communists profoundly assimilate party policy, that they be better informed, and that they become genuine fighters, so that there are no passive members in the party.

The consistent implementation of the conclusions that are contained in the Report of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium approved by today's session and of the approved resolution will establish the necessary conditions for this. The forthcoming district and regional party conferences must become an important step toward putting these conclusions into practice. However, the centerpiece of party work must lie in primary party organizations, which is where the results of our policy are determined.

We have stressed, apart from political work among the people aimed at enlisting them for party policy and for restructuring, the great importance of improving cadre policy and of making it more democratic so that labor collectives, party, trade union, and youth union agencies and organizations, state and economic bodies, national committees, enterprises, cooperatives—in short, all fields—are headed by people who enjoy confidence and have the abilities and personal qualities necessary for this work. Our premise must be that the importance of a highly responsible work by all cadres is growing, particularly in conditions of restructuring the economic mechanism and democratizing society. We have also stressed the important requirement that care must be taken so that more qualified young people are proposed to offices. This requirement must serve as our guide.

We have paid great attention to the correct application of the leading role of the party. What matters is not to supplant economic and state agencies, national committees, and social organizations, but to influence the development of their activity through the medium of the Communists who work in them.

At this session, considerable attention has also been devoted and rightly so, to the fulfillment of tasks in the national economy, especially to plan fulfillment this year. This is chiefly a question of making more rapid headway in the intensification of the economy, in applying scientific-technical progress, because this is the only way to achieve the requisite growth of national income, to safeguard the necessary social development, and to improve the situation on the market. That is why questions of plan fulfillment, of eliminating a number of shortcomings that embitter people's lives and are the target of criticism, and of developing the working people's activity must be in the forefront of the day-to-day efforts of party organizations and of Communists in managerial agencies.

Great attention must be devoted to restructuring the economic mechanism and, in the present period, particularly to the new organizational arrangement of state enterprises. Care must be taken to ensure that their founding is approached responsibly everywhere and that absence of restraint [zivelnost] and the assertion of local and departmental interests is ruled out.

We have also discussed and endorsed proposals for a new arrangement of the center. The CPCZ Central Committee Presidium, Secretariat, and departments, as well as Communists in governments, ministers, and party organizations in central agencies must see to it that the new setup must primarily be linked with a change in the content, style, and methods of work and lead to a consistent enforcement of the new economic mechanism.

We have also dealt with a number of cadre issues. By secret ballot, we carried out changes in the composition of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and Secretariat, and concerning the secretaries. We proceeded from the principle which we endorsed at today's session of the Central Committee, namely, the principle of reducing terms of office and ensuring greater renewal of party agencies. These changes are aimed at making better use of the abilities and prerequisites of individual comrades and at promoting younger comrades, while maintaining continuity of work, and thus creating conditions for further successful advancement in implementing the tasks of party policy.

A number of comrades are departing from the party functions which they have held thus far, changes will also be made in the governments. On this occasion, I would like to express thanks for their dedicated work for the party and socialism, and wish them many further successes and good health.

In particular, I would like to convey thanks, surely also in the name of the entire Central Committee, to Comrades Antonin Kapek and Josef Havlin for their many years of work in the party leadership. To Comrade Kapek I would also like to convey thanks for his work at the head of the Prague party organization. Much has been done in Prague in the period of his activity, and conditions were created for Prague's further development. The Prague party organization has played a major part in the implementation of party policy. We are confident that this will also be the case in the future.

I would also like to wish—again, I am sure, also in the name of you all—much success to all the comrades who have been newly elected either to the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium or to its Secretariat: to Comrades Fojtik, Janak, Lenart, Zavadil, Hanus, Mohorita, and Stepan. May we be successful in the joint work for the implementation of the important tasks that are ahead of us.

In dealing with our internal questions and tackling internal problems, we cannot lose sight of what is happening in the world around us. More then ever before, the interdependence and close links between domestic and foreign policy are coming to the foreground in (the conditions of) the current international situation. The main avenues of the foreign political activity of our party and the socialist state were set by the 17th CPCZ Congress. We are consistently guided by this line. It is a line of indestructible friendship, alliance, and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries, a line of support and understanding for peace-loving, democratic, and realistic forces in the world. We shall continue to work actively for realism and common sense to triumph in international relations, for further progress to be made on the road toward eliminating the danger of nuclear war, toward disarmament and the strengthening of the positions of peace.

In conclusion, I would like to express the conviction that the members and candidate members of the CPCZ Central Committee will take an active part in the implementation of the conclusions of the ninth plenum, that we shall succeed in setting the party in motion, and that a contribution to this will be made by the forthcoming district and regional conferences. I would also like to express the confidence that this year's May Day rallies will be an expression of support for the policy of the Communist Party and the National Front, and an expression of our citizens' active attitude toward socialism and peace.

Janak Replaces Lenart as CPSL First Secretary

LD141303 Prague CTK in English
1130 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Bratislava April 14 (CTK)—A session of the Slovak Communist Party Central Committee today relieved Jozef Lenart of his post of first secretary of the Central Committee and elected Ignac Janak to replace him.

On the agenda of the session was a report of the party presidium on party work in Slovakia in implementing the resolutions of the 9th session of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee, held in Prague on April 8-9.

Attending the session was a delegation of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee led by General Secretary Milos Jakes.

In a secret ballot, the Central Committee relieved Jozef Lenart of the posts of first secretary, member of the Slovak Party Presidium, Secretariat and Central Committee. Ignac Janak was relieved of the posts of Slovak Party Central Committee Secretary, chairman of the Central Committee Commission for Agriculture and Food and the Commission for Youth, Ludovit Pezlar was relieved of the posts of Central Committee secretary, member of the Presidium, Secretariat and chairman of the Ideological Commission.

Ignac Janak was elected party first secretary, Gejza Slapka Central Committee secretary, member of the Central Committee secretariat and chairman of the Ideological Commission, Ivan Knotek was elected Central Committee secretary, member of the Central Committee Presidium and Secretariat, and chairman of the Commission for Agriculture and Food and the Commission for Youth.

Delivering the party Presidium report on party work in Slovakia in implementing the resolutions of the 9th session of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee, new Slovak party leader Ignac Janak stressed that the purpose of today's session is to prepare the party organization in Slovakia for a consistent implementation of tasks linked with restructuring the economic mechanism and deepening socialist democracy.

He said Slovak Communists subscribe to these tasks and are resolved to fulfil them, to use all resources to make the Slovak Socialist Republic a dynamic factor of Czechoslovakia's social development.

Ignac Janak said inter alia that the number of Slovak Communist Party members has risen since 1986 by more than 14,000 and by January 1, 1988 the party had 449,594 members and candidate members.

The report said that economic results achieved in Slovakia so far are not a guarantee of a successful coping with the tasks of the 8th five-year plan. Its fulfilment depends on the solution of several important problems. The centre adopted measures mobilizing the sources and reserves in the Slovak economy, with the aim to exceed the tasks of the plan and achieve the highest possible national income growth.

The report paid attention also to relations between the state and believers, and said the state respects their world outlook and the participation of believers in building the socialist homeland. "We are in favour of good relations to the believers but we shall not allow religious feeling to be misused for anti-social aims, for breaking public order. Our nation put a definitive end to political clericalism in the Slovak national uprising, it brought great sacrifices in struggling against it and this commits us not to yield to the pressure of the followers of Slovak clerico-fascism at home and abroad," the report said.

Cadre Changes Detailed

LD141851 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1630 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] The CPSL Central Committee was in session in Bratislava today. Present at the session was a delegation from the CPCZ Central Committee, headed by Milos Jakes, its general secretary. In the delegation was Karel Hoffmann, member of the presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee.

The session was opened by Jozef Lenart, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee. The Central Committee then elected the working commissions. The first point on the agenda which was chaired by Peter Colotka, member of the CPCZ Central Committee presidium were cadre questions. They were justified by Comrade Milos Jakes.

As you know, he said, the party Central Committee evaluated the unavoidability of some cadre changes in the party central organs, in Slovakia, in the regions, and in the governments, and took measures to perfect the cadre structure with the aim of ensuring that officials not remain too long in the same office, so that able people can be found their place, and so that younger comrades who prove themselves in their work also have the opportunity. In this connection the party Central Committee was concerned with the question of how to strengthen the center itself—that is the CPCZ Central Committee. It considered that it would be right to make use of the experiences and the theoretical and conceptual readiness of Comrade Lenart in the work of the CPCZ Central Committee. This is why at the ninth session Comrade Lenart was elected secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee.

I would like to express the opinion also here, at the CPSL Central Committee session, Comrade Jakes said, that in this complicated period of restructuring, with regard to his rich experience and readiness, he will be a strength in the work of the CPCZ Central Committee organs. In this connection it is proposed that Comrade Lenart be released from the office of first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and at the same time it is proposed to release him from the office of chairman of the Central Committee of the National Front of the Slovak Socialist Republic. Comrade Lenart himself asked to be released from the office of member of the CPSL Central Committee.

The activity of the CPSL has for the last years been connected with the name of Comrade Lenart, continued Comrade Milos Jakes. His authority in our entire party is great. This is because he did not use it for his personal benefit, but in the interest of enhancing the party's authority, party bodies and organizations. During the period of his work in the post of first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee and member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium he gained great experiences and contributed actively to the creation and implementation of party's policy. His democratic approach contributed not only to the activity of the bodies and the apparatus of the CPSL Central Committee, but also to the lower party, state and economic bodies, scientific and cultural institutions of Slovakia. His advantage is that he made use of contact with people, consulted them and people trust him. Comrade Lenart's characteristic is a creative quest, a Marxist-Leninist principled approach and loyalty to the party. He is a patriot and internationalist and has good character features. He always considered the cause and the interests of the party and people. Comrade Lenart belongs among the comrades who represent a certain continuity in the development of the party. After being brought up by veteran Communists, in his youth he joined the revolutionary movement, took part in the Slovak National uprising and the struggle for the victory of the working class power and later held various posts in socialist construction. And today he is handing his experiences and his knowledge of this revolutionary continuity to the younger generation.

After his commencement in the post of the first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, Comrade Lenart managed to weld the core of the party in overcoming the consequences of the period of crisis and at the same time he managed to follow all the positive, the long experiences of the party and all that was brought by the life in pre-crisis period and he was able to develop all the progressive features in the Slovak conditions after the 14th CPCZ Congress.

This was manifested first and foremost in Marxist-Leninist cohesion in the party, in enhancing the party's influence upon society and in the party's correct attitude to the masses. It was reflected in a continuous quest and creative tackling of the problems which were presented by the development of science and technology and social sciences and which were needed also by the necessity of raising labor productivity, the standard of management and production quality.

It must be pointed out that as an internationalist he influenced the promotion of integration relations, above all with the Soviet Union and also influenced the implementation of the Law on Czechoslovak Federation. His devoted ability to react to each political issue has manifested itself in his attitude to the nationalities.

We value his great contribution to the fact that the Slovak cultural front, the intelligentsia, has become a firm supporter of socialist development. Comrade Lenart has a significant share in the development of Slovakia, in the successes which have been achieved, and in increasing the Slovak contribution to the development of the Czechoslovak national economy.

We are convinced, Comrade Milos Jakes said, that he will use all his strength, abilities and experiences in his new post of secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee in order to implement the conclusions of the 17th congress on restructuring and democratization. I would like to thank Comrade Lenart once again for all the work he has done up to now for the party and socialism and to wish him much success, further strength and good health in his new office of secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee.

With regard to the release of Comrade Lenart, at the same time I put forward the proposal approved by the CPCZ Central Committee, that Comrade Ignac Janak be elected first secretary, member of the Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee and Secretary of the CPSL Central Committee. At the same time approval is recommended of the proposal for Comrade Janak to be a candidate for the office of chairman of the Central Committee of the National Front of the Slovak Socialist Republic. The basis of the proposal is that Comrade Janak has the necessary experience, he has proved himself fully in his work, he has shown his political maturity, organizational abilities, fidelity to Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, and is actively implementing the party's policy. He worked in the Youth Union, in party office at district level, as secretary of the West Slovak regional committee of the CPSL and for some time he was leading secretary of this regional organization. His decisive approach to solving all questions of the West Slovak regional committee of the CPSL led to the activation of the whole regional organization and to concrete positive results in its work. The West Slovak region has shown the advantages of socialist mass production, particularly in agriculture, and the way to self-sufficiency in food.

And this, too, is why Comrade Janak was elected to the post of the secretary of the CPSL Central Committee. He proved himself fully in this work. The CPCZ Central Committee at the same time approved a proposal to release Comrade Ludovit Pezlar from the post of secretary, member of the Presidium and the Secretariat of the CPSL Central Committee with regard to his request and proposes to elect to his post Comrade Gejza Slapka, leading secretary of the CPSL City Committee in Bratislava and to elect him at the same time as a member of the CPSL Central Committee Secretariat. With regard to the proposal to elect Comrade Janak to the post of the first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, the CPCZ Central Committee recommended the election of Comrade Ivan Knotek, leading secretary of the West Slovak regional CPSL Committee who proved himself fully in his present work, as a secretary and member of the Presidium and the Secretariat of the CPSL Central Committee.

At the same time the CPCZ Central Committee approved a proposal that Comrades Slapka and Knotek be released from their existing posts as chief secretaries of the city and regional committee of the party respectively.

The implementation of these proposals has brought about considerable changes in the composition of secretaries, the Secretariat and the CPSL Central Committee Presidium as well as in the rejuvenation of it. These changes will ensure a continuity in the work, and contribute to the implementation of the demanding tasks entailed in the conclusions of the 17th CPCZ Congress, the seventh and ninth sessions of the CPCZ Central Committee.

The CPCZ Central Committee is convinced that Comrade Janak, the proposed members of the Presidium and Secretariat and the entire CPSL Central Committee will do their utmost to ensure that the CPSL continues to be a steadfast militant detachment of the CPCZ during such a complicated period as restructuring is, stressed Comrade Milos Jakes.

The CPSL Central Committee decided about the cadre proposals submitted in a secret ballot. It released Comrade Jozef Lenart from the post of the first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, member of its Presidium, Secretariat and member of the CPSL Central Committee.

It released Comrade Ignac Janak from the post of a secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, chairman and member of the Commission of the CPSL Central Committee for Agriculture and Food, and the Commission of the CPSL Central Committee for Work with Youth.

It released Comrade Ludovit Pezlar from the post of the secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, member of its presidium and Secretariat, and chairman of the Ideological Commission of the CPSL Central Committee.

It elected Comrade Ignac Janak to the post of first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee; it elected Gejza Slapka to the post of secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, member of the CPSL Central Committee Secretariat and chairman of the CPSL Central Committee's Ideological Commission.

It elected Comrade Ivan Knotek to the post of secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, member of the Presidium and of the Secretariat of the CPSL Central Committee, and chairman of the CPSL Central Committee's Agriculture and Food Commission and of the CPSL Central Committee's Youth Work Commission.

It coopted as members of the CPSL Central Committee the following comrades: Stefan Murin, Stefan Rybar, Ondrej Saling and Michal Spak. It promoted Comrades Koloman Dudas, Pavel Koys, and Jozef Sevc from candidate members to full members of the CPSL Central Committee.

The members of the CPSL Control and Audit Commission, the heads of the departments of the CPSL Central Committee, the secretaries of the party's regional committees for political and organizational work, the Communists, the deputy chairmen of the Slovak National Council, the members of the Slovak Socialist Republic Government and other guests participated in the second part of the session apart from the members and candidates to the CPSL Central Committee.

After announcing the results of the elections, Comrade Ignac Janak, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and the first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, took the floor. He thanked the members of the CPSL Central Committee for their trust and for electing him to the high post, which obliges him to work for the benefit of our party and all society in the implementation of the strategic policy of accelerating socioeconomic development. He gave an assurance that he would exert all his ability so as to ensure that the CPSL, as a firm combat detachment of the CPCZ, would successfully contribute to the implementation of the 17th CPCZ Congress and the CPSL congress.

In his efforts he will rely on the assistance, cooperation, support and on the collective counsel of the CPSL Central Committee, he went on to say. Comrade Ignac Janak then expressed heartfelt thanks on behalf of the members and candidates of the CPSL Central Committee and the CPSL Centrol Control and Audit Commission to Comrade Jozef Lenart for his dedicated work in the post of first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, for his contribution to the all-round development of Slovakia, to the deepening of fraternal cooperation between our peoples and nationalities and to the strengthening of fraternity, alliance, and cooperation with the Soviet Union. At the same time he congratulated him on the election as a secretary and member of the CPCZ Central Committee Secretariat and wished him good health and many successes.

He expressed sincere thanks to Comrade Ludovit Pezlar for his long, consciencious and praiseworthy work for the Communist Party and the socialist society. He praised his activity and his stamina in carrying out the work in party posts, especially in tackling the task in ideological sphere.

After the results of the elections had been announced, Comrade Ignac Janak thanked the members of the CPSL Central Committee for their trust and for electing him to the high post, and gave the assurance that he would exert every effort and all his ability to ensuring that the CPSL, as a firm militant detachment of the CPCZ, would successfully engage in implementing the program of the 17th CPCZ Congress and the CPSL congress.

Czech National Council Session Summarized

LD122316 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
1630 GMT 12 Apr 88

[Text] The ninth session of the Czech National Council ended in Prague today. Vaclav Klement reports:

[Klement] Twelve deputies spoke in the debate which concluded the session. Despite the complex problems which are connected with the present state of this sphere, participants in the session arrived at the conclusion that the present unfavorable trend can be halted and changed. This requires, however, the unconditional and responsible ensurance of fulfillment of the planned strategy of industry of the Czech SR.

At the end of debate, government representatives answered deputies' questions. Bohumil Urban, Czech deputy premier, described measures to ensure production of disposable syringes. Kcs327 million in hard currency were allocated for the fulfillment of this task. Industry minister Petr Hojer, in reply to a question, said that the export of some products to capitalist countries has been reduced and thus supplies to the home market will be increased by 750,000 pairs of shoes, 500,000 items of underwear, and 450,000 items of knitwear and clothing.

Czech Premier Ladislav Adamec, said at the end of the session that the situation in the industry of the Czech SR has grown from an economic matter into a sensitive political matter. Analyses, including those in the Czech National Council today, have shown that we know the causes and ways toward the solution; they are not easy and will not function immediately.

The government has adopted measures to renew the dynamics of the industry, has strengthened the realistic features of the plan, and has created conditions for the achievement of balance between material sources and output and for a sufficient modernization of production means. The industry of the CZECH SR, Comrade Adamec stressed, has to better satisfy in the future the needs of the home market but also to increase the efficiency of exports.

More on MARXIST REVIEW Conference

90 Parties Represented

LD121613 Prague CTK in English
1250 GMT 12 Apr 88

[Text] Prague April 12 (CTK)—A consultative meeting of representatives of communist and workers parties on the work of the "WORLD MARXIST REVIEW" journal was opened here today.

The highest organ of this theoretical and information monthly meets for the eighth time since its foundation 30 years ago. At present the journal appears in 41 languages and is circulated in 145 countries.

Attending the meeting are nearly 90 representatives of communist and workers parties, including a Czechoslovak Communist Party delegation led by Presidium member and Central Committee Secretary Vasil Bilak.

At the start of the session the participants paid tribute to the memory of outstanding workers of the international communist, workers and national liberation movement who died in the period since the last meeting in December 1984.

Later on the journal's Editor-in-Chief Aleksandr Subbotin made an expose of the submitted report on the activities of the editors between December 1984 and February 1988.

He said, inter alia, that the meeting was taking place at a time when the fraternal parties are seeking answers to problems caused by deep transformations of the world at the end of the 20th century.

While dealing with the journal's tasks in the struggle for peace, Subbotin said that lately the journal reflected new approaches of communists to the question of peace and in particular to forming a comprehensive system of international security. He added that it is necessary that the journal should give more detailed answers to questions discussed within the communist and peace movement, that the journal become a platform of new thinking.

In this context he emphasized the importance of an open exchange of opinions and strengthening cooperation of the fraternal parties while exchanging experiences and collectively considering topical problems.

SED's Jarowinsky Addresses Meeting

LD122255 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1544 GMT 12 Apr 88

[Text] Prague, 12 Par (ADN)—A conference of representatives of communist and workers' parties on the activity of the journal "PROBLEMS OF PEACE AND SOCIALISM" [WORLD MARXIST REVIEW] began in Prague today.

At the opening session the chief editor of the journal, Aleksandr Subbotin, welcomed the representatives of 92 parties. The SED delegation is headed by Werner Jarowinsky, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee.

Aleksandr Subbotin presented the report, prepared by the Editorial Board and the Editorial Council, on the work of the journal over the past 3 years.

Werner Jarowinsky praised the work of the journal—founded 30 years ago—as an indispensable forum for the exchange of opinions and experience and as a means for the mutual informing of communist and workers' parties on current questions of Marxist-Leninist theory and policy.

"We regard the common interests and goals in the worldwide struggle for peace and social progress as the decisive concern of our collaboration on the journal. And in the foreground here stands for us that which unites us, without concealing differences in positions and opinions," Werner Jarowinsky said.

Here it should be noted that the strengthening of the international collaboration of communists for common goals is based on the independence and individual responsibility of each party in the elaboration and implementation of its policy. "Following the introduction by our party in the seventies of a turning point in the further shaping of the developed socialist society, we will shape in future, too, on the basis of the decisions of the 11th party congress—in accordance with the commitment to our party programme—the developed socialist society as a process of far-reaching political, social and intellectual-cultural changes," the SED Politburo member said. "Our starting point here is that the party is there for the people, that its entire work is always directed toward tangible positive results for the people. This is and will remain decisive for the mass effectiveness of policy. As Comrade Erich Honecker stressed, here we are attentively studying the experience of the other socialist countries and are making use of it, without copying it. It is our conviction that the developing variety in the world of socialism will produce growing unity of the fraternal countries at a higher level."

During the conference the SED delegation had friendly meetings with representatives of communist and workers' parties, such as Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Vadim Zagladin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chief of the International department of the CPSU Central Committee; Vasil Bilak, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee; Karl Heinz Schroeder, member of the Presidium and of the Secretariat of the party executive of the DKP; Ib Noerlund, member of the Politburo and of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Denmark; Erwin Scharf, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Austria; and Heinz Gruenberg, member of the Executive Bureau of the SEW.

CPCZ's Bilak Addresses Session

LD121627 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1200 GMT 12 Apr 88

[Text] Vasil Bilak, member of the Presidium and Secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, spoke during a debate at the international conference of representatives of communist and workers' parties on the work of the journal QUESTIONS OF PEACE AND SOCIALISM [WORLD MARXIST REVIEW] which opened in Prague today. He dealt in detail with current international developments, pointing out at the same time at a certain improvement in the political climate in the world. He also pointed out that the struggle between socialism and imperialism, between the forces of peace and progress and the forces of reaction and war continues to develop in various forms. He went on to recall restructuring, democratization, and the acceleration of social and economic development in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

When Vasil Bilak spoke about the mission and future tasks of the journal QUESTIONS OF PEACE AND SOCIALISM he singled out the interest of the participating parties in improving its standard. He described its share in overcoming problems in the international communist movement as being one of the important tasks facing the journal at the current stage.

In conclusion he gave assurances on behalf of the CPCZ that Czechoslovakia as the host country of the publishing house and the editorial office of the journal QUESTIONS OF PEACE AND SOCIALISM will continue to strive to further improve the conditions for the work of representatives of the fraternal parties.

Leaders Public Appearances 24-31 Mar

AU051444 [Editorial Report] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech and Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak from 25 March to 1 April report the following public appearances by CSSR leaders (source, date, and page number of each report is given in parentheses):

In the presence of Jindrich Polednik, CPCZ Central Committee secretary, Alois Indra, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and chairman of the CSSR Federal Assembly, presented a congratulatory letter by Milos Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, to Bohuslav Kucera, chairman of the Czechoslovak Socialist Party and deputy chairman of the CSSR Federal Assembly, on the occasion of Kucera's 65th birthday, in Prague on 24 March. (Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 25 Mar p 1)

Jozef Lenart, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium secretary and fist secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, attended and addressed a CPSL conference in Levice on 24 March. (Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 25 Mar p 2)

Jindrich Polednik, CPCZ Central Committee secretary, presented state awards to workers active in the CSSR cooperative sector, in Prague on 25 March. (Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 26 Mar p 2) Jindrich Polednik attended the 10th Congress of the Central Council of Cooperatives in Prague on 26 March. (Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 28 Mar p 1)

Josef Haman, candidate member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, attended and addressed an all-enterprise CPCZ conference in the Tatra Works in Koprivnice on 26 March. (Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 28 Mar p 2)

Mikulas Beno, CPCZ Central Committee secretary, attended and addressed an all-enterprise CPCZ conference at the CSSR Ministry of Transportation in Prague on 26 March. (Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 28 Mar p 2)

Antonin Kapek, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and leading secretary of the CPCZ's Prague City Committee, attended and addressed an all-enterprise CPCZ conference in the CKD Tatra Smichov enterprise in Prague on 26 March. (Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 29 Mar p 2)

Josef Havlin, CPCZ Central Committee secretary, attended celebrations of the Teachers' Day in Prague on 28 March. (Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 29 Mar p 1)

Milos Jakes and Alois Indra received DPRK Ambassador Kim Kwang-sop in Prague on 28 March. (Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 29 Mar p 1)

Josef Havlin attended and addressed a CPCZ conference at the CPCZ Central Committee's Advanced School of Politics, in Prague 29 March. (Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 30 Mar p 2)

Ladislav Adamec, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and premier of the Czech SR, attended a session of the CPCZ's North Moravian Regional Committee in Ostrava on 29 March. (Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 30 Mar p 2)

Alois Indra presented the Order of the Victorious February to Army General Milan Vaclavik, CSSR minister of national defense, on the occasion of the latter's 60th birthday, in Prague on 30 March. (Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 31 Mar p 1)

Ignac Janak, candidate member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and CPSL Central Committee secretary, attended deliberations of trade unionists held in Bratislava on 30 March. (Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 31 Mar p 2)

Milos Jakes presided over a statewide meeting of leading secretaries of CPCZ regional committees and Prague and Bratislava city committees in Prague on 31 March. (Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 1 Apr p 1)

Leaders Public Appearances 1-6 Apr

AU081149 [Editorial Report] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech and Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak from 2 to 7 April report the following public appearances by CSSR leaders (source, date, and page number of each report is given in parentheses):

Antonin Kapek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and leading secretary of the Prague CPCZ City Committee, presented the Order of Labor to Jaroslav Janku, leading secretary of the municipal district party committee in Prague-2, in Prague on 1 April, on the occasion of the latter's 60th birthday. (Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 2 Apr p 2)

Peter Colotka, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and premier of the Slovak SR, presented to

Jozef Lenart, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, a congratulatory letter from the CPSL Central Committee in Bratislava on 1 April, on the occasion of Lenart's 65th birthday. (Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 2 Apr p 1)

Alois Indra, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and chairman of the CSSR Federal Assembly, received Dusan Rodic, SFRY ambassador to the CSSR, in Prague on 5 April, to discuss relations between the two countries' legislative bodies. (Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 6 Apr p 1)

Foreign Minstry Welcomes Afghan Accords

LD141736 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1314 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Berlin 14 Apr (ADN)—The GDR welcomes the signing of the agreement on a political settlement of the situation in Afghanistan. This was stated in Berlin today by Foreign Ministry Spokesman Ambassador Wolfgang Meyer

The accords reached were primarily a result of the constructive attitude of the Soviet Union and the Government of Afghanistan and of the mediating role of the United Nations. With their signing all international law conditions have been met for eliminating one of the most complicated regional conflicts of our time.

With this agreement, of which the USSR and the United States are the guarantor powers, conditions for ending the bloodshed in Afghanistan and for stabilizing the situation in the region have been created. This is of great importance for an improvement in the international climate. It has been confirmed that complicated international issues, too, could be settled politically if the legitimate interests of all the sides affected are given due recognition and there is a readiness to compromise.

Meyer stressed that now it is necessary for all the sides involved in the conflict to meet and respect the commitments of the agreements fully. Above all what is essential is recognition of the fact that no issue affecting Afghanistan's internal development can be solved except by the Afghan people themselves. Thus the process of national reconciliation has great significance.

Meyer expressed the GDR's hope that the impetus for a political solution to other regional conflicts will emanate from this agreement and its realization.

Romanian Joint Economic Commission Meets

Protocol Signed

AU141423 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1355 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Berlin, AGERPRES, 14/4/1988—Between April 12 and 14, the 13th session was held in Berlin of the Joint Governmental Commission of Economic, Technical and Scientific Collaboration between the Socialist Republic of Romania and the German Democratic Republic.

In keeping with the understandings reached and orientations set during summit meetings and talks, analysis was made of the current stage in bilateral economic relations, with emphasis on their growing course, and possibilities were examined of further deepening collaboration and cooperation in domains of mutual interest, of increasing and diversifying goods exchanges between Romania and the GDR.

Taking the achievements in bilateral economic collaboration and the steadily growing potential of the two countries' economies as a basis, new cooperation ventures and actions of specialization were covenanted in machine building, electronics, electrical engineering, chemical and petrochemical industries, metallurgy. Specific measures were also set for the increase and diversification of goods exchanges.

At the end of the proceedings the co-chairmen of the commission, Romanian First Deputy Prime Minister Gheorghe Oprea and Guenther Kleiber, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the GDR, signed the session's protocol.

RCP's Oprea, Stoph Meet

AU141851 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1758 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Berlin, AGERPRES, 14/4/1988—Gheorghe Oprea, member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, first deputy prime minister, now in Berlin on the proceedings of the 13th session of the Joint Governmental Commission of Economic and Technical-Scientific Collaboration between Romania and the GDR, was received by Willi Stoph, member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the SUPG, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the GDR.

During the interview stress was laid on the importance of the understandings covenanted between the two countries' party and state leaders for the further deepening of the economic and technical-scientific collaboration, of production specialization and cooperation in production, for the raising of the bilateral economic relations to a new stage, for the continuous strengthening of friendship and cooperation on multiple planes between the two parties, countries and peoples.

Further Steps To Boost Private Business Passed

LD111817 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1315 GMT 11 Apr 88

[Text] Berlin, 11 Apr ADN—The GDR Government passed further measures for promoting private business in March, according to State Secretary Helmut Danz of the Ministry for Trade and Supply. In line with these measures, in the future family businesses, as well as small private businesses and catering establishments, are to be promoted more strongly. Business permits are to be issued more swiftly by local politicians.

The GDR'S almost 25,600 private retailers, restauranteurs, and landlords perform supply tasks worth some M10 billion. They account for 8.5 percent of the retail trade and 16 percent of the catering trade.

The primary task now is to reopen closed shops and catering establishments. Premises used for other purposes are once more to be used for their original purpose.

According to State Secretary Dr Danz the goal of the active trade policy is to use private initiatives for raising the local level of supply. This policy has halted the decline in private businesses. In 1986 and 1987 over 400 businesses and catering establishments were opened.

Above all extra facilities should be created for weekends and the holiday season in recreational and tourist areas. Retailers are being oriented toward taking on mobile supply tasks at weekly markets, on main shopping streets, and in shopping centers as well as at special events.

Publication of Book on 1953 Unrest Urged

LD081411 Hamburg DPA in German
1040 GMT 8 Apr 88

[Text] East Berlin (DPA)—The East Berlin author Stephan Hermlin has called for publication by a GDR publishing house of Stefan Heym's novel "Five Days in June" about the strikes and unrest of 17 June 1953. "It is high time that 'Five Days in June' was published here," Hermlin says in an article on the occasion of Heym's 75th birthday in the latest edition of the GDR periodical WOCHENPOST. Heym's literary treatment of the events of 1953 was published in the Federal Republic in 1974.

Hermlin writes in the article that he considers Heym's novel "one of the best and most just presentations of the events of that time." Hermlin had been among the first who received the manuscript from Heym more than 30 years ago. Heym had "altered his novel considerably under the influence of fresh historical evidence."

On the novel's reception at that time Hermlin comments: Many Western newspapers loudly demanded that the book should be published in the GDR; the loud voices were silenced when the book appeared in the West. An embarassed silence spread. This was apparently connected with the fact that Stefan Heym's novel rebutted the legends which many held dear of the "liberation struggle" and the "workers' uprising." "However, the novel did contradict simplification on our side."

Hermlin points out that now Heym's novel "Ahasver", published in the Federal Republic 7 years ago, is to be published in the GDR. "All the others" should be published too, the author adds. Heym's novels not published so far in the GDR are "Schwarzenberg" and "Collin" (1979).

Heym was born in Chemnitz (now Karl-Marx-Stadt) on 10 April 1913. He returned to the GDR from exile in the United States in 1952. Heym was one of the first signatories of a protest against the denaturalization of the poet, singer, and songwriter Wolf Biermann in 1976 and was excluded from the GDR'S Writers' Association in 1979.

State Security Officers, Mielke Successor Named

DW130954 Bonn DIE WELT in German
13 Apr 88 p 4

[Werner Kahl article: "State Security Top Echelon Reshuffled and Broadened"]

[Text] Bonn—The top echelon of the East Berlin Ministry for State Security (MFS) has been reshuffled and broadened since the early retirement of Colonel General Markus Wolf (SED), who had been the "GDR" espionage chief for many years. Rudi Mittig (SED), who was promoted from lieutenant general to colonel general, became the highest-ranking deputy to Army General Erich Mielke (SED), the 80-year old state security minister. According to political observers this marks the end of a power struggle in the SED leadership and in the Moscow-oriented forces. The appointment of 63-year old Mittig, who has been in the intelligence service since 1950, is considered by political circles a preliminary decision by the State Security Ministry in settling the problem of the sucessor to 80-year old Mielke.

According to the new official MFS protocol register now available in Bonn, the state security top echelon includes the following names as of spring, 1988:

The minister for state security is Army General Erich Mielke, who is simultaneously a member of the SED Central Committee.

First deputy is Colonel General Rudi Mittig, member of the SED Central Committee.

Another three deputies are: Lieutenant General Gerhard Neiber, born 1926; Lieutenant General Wolfgang Schwanitz, born 1930, who to date has been responsible for state security in East Berlin Bezirk; and Werner Grossmann, also promoted to lieutenant general, whom DIE WELT described in 1987 as "the man without a face."

Grossmann is considered the successor to "GDR" espionage chief Markus Wolf, who belonged to the MFS for 34 years. However, Grossmann's function has officially been kept secret in the "GDR." Therefore the West does not have any biographical data available from open sources. However, according to expert opinion it is to be assumed that Grossmann has taken over the "Main Department for Surveillance" (HVA).

Just 1 year after the resignation of his predecessor Markus Wolf in a manner which was extremely unusual for the SED regime—Wolf had the rank of a Soviet Armed Forces officer when Berlin was taken in 1945—the State Security Service's leadership echelon has been consolidated. Rivalries between state security generals and their supporting SED, CPSU, and KGB functionaries are not being disclosed.

Political observers consider the promotion of Mittig—who says that his professions were "mason, construction engineer, and attorney," and who has been the minister's deputy since 1975—not yet the final choice for Mielke's succession. Also mentioned is Egon Krenz, SED Politburo member and former FDJ chairman, who was considered the "crown prince" of and successor to SED General Secretary Erich Honecker. Experts believe that in nominating a ministerial successor, the party leadership will decide in favor of a functionary who unconditionally recognizes unlimited SED control of the intelligence service and who can guarantee that SED rule will be safeguarded in the future.

Mielke has served for 38 years as minister and deputy in the State Security Service. Of all the deputies, only Mittig has belonged to the intelligence service for an equal period of time.

Safety Officer Explains Nuclear Waste Disposal

LD081440 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1105 GMT 8 Apr 88

[Text] Berlin, 8 Apr (ADN)—For the GDR, the problem of waste disposal from its nuclear power plants is solved by means of a government agreement between the GDR and the USSR. Ultimate waste disposal of the spent nuclear elements takes place in the Soviet Union under the agreement. This was stated by Dr Hans Scheel, vice president in the GDR State Office for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection, in Berlin before the international press.

Prior to going to the USSR, the waste was only stored temporarily at the Nord nuclear power station near Greifswald for technical reasons, said Dr Scheel. In line with the regulations of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, this depot was subject to controls by the IAEA. At the same time it served as a training site for the organization's inspectors.

The vice president referred in this connection to the extremely strict regulations for handling radioactive material. Thus any use of nuclear and radiation energy in the GDR requires authorization by the nuclear authority and is subject to stringent state controls.

At present there are 7,800 permit-holders, above all in industry and medical diagnosis and in work with nuclear or radiation energy. Uniform legal regulations based on the Nuclear Energy Law passed by the People's Chamber in 1983 apply to everyone.

At present the GDR has two nuclear power plants, the Nord station near Greifswald and the Rheinsberg nuclear power station, which supply the grid with electricity. Another plant is under construction in Stendal.

People's Chamber Defense Committee Convenes

AU111621 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 8 Apr 88 p 2

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—The GDR People's Chamber Committee for National Defense convened for a routine meeting in Berlin on Thursday [7 April] under the leadership of its chairman Wolfgang Herger. The lively discussions, during which deputies from all groups took the floor, focused on the training and further education of political officers of the National People's Army and the GDR Border Troops. The members of the committee visited training facilities of the "Wilhelm Pieck" University. The deputies discussed with teachers and student officers the GDR's contribution to strengthening the defense capability of the socialist community of states. The striving for detente and disarmament, including initiatives such as the the international meeting on nuclear-free zones planned for June 1988 in Berlin and the joint statement by the SED, CPCZ, and SPD calling for a ban on chemical weapons occupied a considerable part of the talks.

At the beginning of the meeting, Colonel General Horst Bruenner, chief of the Political Main Administration of the National People's Army, reported on the training of political officers. He stressed that they are honorably fulfilling the class assignment under the leadership of the party of the workers class and in alliance with their brothers-in-arms. Like all army members they consider it their primary duty to reliably protect the people's peaceful construction work at all times through high fighting strength and combat-readiness on the part of the military collectives.

Commander Major General Rolf Dietzsch briefed the deputies on the development of the party college, which was founded 20 years ago, into a a military training institution, where political and party workers are being trained on the basis of high-level practice-oriented research. They are striving to equal their revolutionary idol Wilhelm Pieck with very good results.

In conclusion Committee Chairman Wolfgang Herger emphasized the GDR's efforts to protect socialism and to safeguard peace. Starting from the pledge that war must never again start from German soil, the GDR and particularly Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, consider it the most important task in world politics to work for peace and security. In this spirit, the removal of the OTR-22 missiles by the Soviet Union from the GDR and CSSR before the Soviet-U.S. treaty comes into effect is an example of goodwill in the process of nuclear disarmament.

MTI Moscow Correspondent on Afghan Accord

LD141350 Budapest MTI in English
1247 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow, April 14 (MTI)—Andras Szanto, MTI's Moscow correspondent, writes:

The Soviet Union endeavoured with all possible means to move the Geneva negotiation process out of the impasse. A good indication of this was that, in the interest of the agreement, Mikhail Gorbachev met Afghan leader Najibullah in Tashkent, following the two-day Kabul talks of Foreign Minister Shevardnadze, to discuss issues to be clarified between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan. The result of their meeting at that time reflected the commitment of the Soviet leadership that it is ready to begin withdrawing its troops from Afghanistan on the previously announced date, May 15, following the signing of the Afghan-Pakistani documents.

Confirmation of this readiness indicated two things: On the one hand, Moscow was confident in the success of the indirect Geneva talks, on the other hand, it continued preparations of the withdrawal time-table determined in the statement of February 8 in the hope of success.

If respect is shown for the agreements that clarify the external conditions of the settlement in Afghanistan, the much suffered Asian country will be able to seek the solution to its internal problems itself. One of the most important elements of the external conditions is the guarantee of the two great powers, the Soviet Union and the United States. The reciprocal acceptance of guarantees, and restraint from arms deliveries indicate that the regular dialogue between the two great powers makes it possible to attain results not only in the theme of nuclear disarmament, but it can also find a solution to the regional conflicts with political means.

The Soviet Union will not abandon Afghanistan, and the withdrawal of troops to be realized in two stages will leave no void in the country. Soviet soldiers will first withdraw from places where central or local forces are capable of taking over the maintenance of order. In the other places, order can be guaranteed through the division of labour of the central power, and the local, tribal forces.

After April 14, the Afghan people can begin to transform the country's internal life, to build a new power and social structure.

And the world can hope, on the basis of the example for settling the Afghan crisis, that hotbeds of tension can be eliminated in other parts of the world, too, with diplomatic wiseness, political goodwill and readiness—writes MTI's Moscow correspondent.

Marjai Leaves for Cooperation Talks in USSR

LD141111 Budapest MTI in English
1110 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Budapest, April 14 (MTI)—On Thursday Jozsef Marjai, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, left for Moscow to hold talks with Deputy Prime Minister Aleksey Antonov, co-chairman of the Hungarian-Soviet economic, technical and scientific cooperation committee, on timely and long-term issues of bilateral cooperation, particularly preparations for the forthcoming meeting of the two countries' heads of government.

MSZMP Delegation Returns From Soviet Union

LD150357 Budapest MTI in English
1634 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Budapest, April 14 (MTI)—A delegation of Hungarian party workers, headed by Bela Kovacs, head of the Party Management and Administration Department at the HSWP Central Committee, visited the Soviet Union from April 12 to 14 at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. The delegation included Gyorgy Bakonyi, head of sub-department at the CC. The delegation met Vadim Medvedev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and held talks with Nikolay Kruchina, member of the CPSU CC and head of department at the CC, on topical issues of party management and the cooperation of the two parties' competent organs.

Convicted Manager Expelled From MSZMP

AU141303 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian
12 Apr 88 p 9

[Unattributed report: "Party Disciplinary Decision in the Case of the Fire at Heviz"]

[Text] We have reported in detail on the circumstances in which a newly built wooden swimming pool system burnt down at a Heviz sanatorium. We reported in our article that Imre Gaal, deputy general manager for economic and technical affairs of the State Thermal Baths and Hospital in Heviz, who had repeatedly committed acts of gross negligence, played a substantial role in causing the fire. Violating his duty, he allowed the lakeside saunas to be built in violation of regulations, and personally contributed to operating them; in addition, he blatantly demanded the cooperation of his fellow workers.

In this case, as result of negligent handling which caused particularly heavy damage to property, legal procedings were started against several people. The Supreme Court sentenced Imre Gaal to 1 year and 10 months imprisonment; its ruling is legally binding. At the same time, party disciplinary procedures were also initiated. The Zala County MSZMP Committee expelled Imre Gaal from the MSZMP. Imre Gaal appealed to the MSZMP Central Control Committee, which has now confirmed the decision on his expulsion.

Grosz on Reform Committee, Tax Modifications

LD151023 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0600 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] The Hungarian Government will create a reform committee to avoid, if possible, having decisions made which are not well thought-out. Prime Minister Karoly Grosz said this to NEPSZABADSAG in connection with his participation in a party membership meeting of one of the basic organizations of the Diosgyoer machine factory.

He said an economic consultative body would be formed for the preparation of long-term decisions. It is expected that these measures will make the decision-making mechanism more unified. Institutional coordination of interests is intended to play a very great role in decision-making.

Speaking about the tax system, he explained that modifications would be introduced soon because the package of measures introduced so far has not sufficiently reduced the producer prices and has not induced the desired restructuring effect. Karoly Grosz also said that the excessive expectation regarding the national party conference was unjustified because problems accumulated over several years cannot be solved by a resolution.

Shortage of Qualified Workers, Graduates Noted

AU141431 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 13 Apr 88 p 1

[MTI report: "The Enterprises' Demand for Manpower Continues—Skilled Workers and Young Graduates Are Mainly Sought"]

[Text] The manpower situation in Hungary continues to have both a manpower shortage and employment problems. The desired promotion of manpower mobility is proving to be quite difficult. This is partly because we definitely cannot increase the number of commuters and partly because there is more involved than just a decision to move across the country, acquire housing, and make a living there. The general experience shows that people who do not have some kind of professional training are finding it increasingly difficult to get a job.

According to county statistics, there is a shortage of skilled workers almost everywhere despite the decrease in unfilled vacancies compared to last year, and even compared to the beginning of the current year. The exception is Hajdu-Bihar County where today there are 500 more jobs than at the beginning of this year; there are jobs waiting for almost 1,700 skilled and semi-skilled workers. And here comes the contradiction: there are 600 unemployed people registered with the county employment office, 80 percent of them unskilled workers; since there are only 118 vacancies for such workers, it is almost impossible for most of these people to find employment in the county. The greatest number of similar cases are registered in Borsod-Abauj-Zemplen County, where the enterprises have vacancies for 2,100 people—mostly lathe operators, welders, engine fitters, and miners—but there are 2,500 unemployed looking for jobs, and 90 percent of them are unskilled workers with a low level of education of only three or four elementary school classes.

Of course, we cannot say that everyone who has a profession can choose among various jobs. In Bekes County, for example, the number of vacancies exceeded the number of job seekers, but about 500 young graduates—from among the 10,000 young people who graduated last year—were unable to find jobs in their professions.

What kind of skilled workers are the employers actually looking for? Among the skilled workers, the most highly sought after are the metal workers. In addition to the examples mentioned for Borsod County, there is also a need for millers; water, gas, and central heating specialists; mechanics; and electromechanics. Electricians and construction workers are also in demand, including carpenters, masons, roofers, and tile-layers. Miners are sought in the Mecsek mine areas and in Komarom and Veszprem County mines; at the same time, fears are expressed that the renovation of coal mines in Nograd County will have a negative impact on employment possibilities in the area.

There is almost a general shortage of university graduates in the provinces. Bekes County, for example, expects 1,700 college graduates annually, and there is a great shortage of professionals in health care and education. Borsod County needs more teachers and specialist physicians than there are applicants. Fejer County needs similar professionals as well as economists and graduate agricultural experts. Nograd County needs 143 teachers, 41 physicians, 27 enterprise economists, and 13 engineers. Young lawyers, chemists, and teachers find it almost impossible to get a job in Csongrad County because these jobs are all filled as a result of the educational facilities provided by Szeged.

Well-trained skilled workers who have experience in manufacturing new products are needed in order to change the production structure. Almost 1,000 workers—mainly semiskilled workers—have been retrained in Fejer County in the last 2 years, and people who have been made redundant as a result of modernization of agricultural production have been provided with training to become skilled industrial workers. In Borsod County, the Labor Affairs Department of the Borsod County Council, the Ozd Metallurgical Works, and the local employment office jointly organized lathe operator and welder training courses for unemployed workers. These people will receive 3,500 forints per month and traveling expenses for the duration of the course.

More than 500 workers have participated in retraining courses so far. In Komarom County, computer programming courses have been organized for young high-school graduates. The employment office in Nyiregyhaza will organize a computer operator course for young high-school graduate girls. Baranya County Council, together with the county hospital and the vocational school, will organize a special health care professional course for young high-school graduates.

Economic Results for January-February 1988

AU140704 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 6 Apr 88 p 10

[Unattributed report: "Table of Economic Indexes"]

[Text] January-February 1988 (data as percentage of performance during same period last year)

Industrial State and Cooperative Enterprises	Volume of gross production:
Industry total	101.4
within this:	
metallurgy	104.1
machine industry	100.9
chemical industry	105.2
building materials industry	108.1
light industry	99.9
food industry	98.6
Industry, excluding food industry	101.9
Number of employees	97.4
Gross industrial product per employee	104.1
Construction sector of the building industry	
Production of the building industry	120.3
Number of employees	101.7
Foreign trade (at current prices)	
Imports	101.0
ruble accounts	99.5
non-ruble accounts	102.1
Exports	124.8
ruble accounts	106.7
non-ruble accounts	144.7
Retail trade turnover (at current prices)	107.7
within this:	
food, beverages and tobacco	105.6
clothing	94.2
miscellaneous industrial articles	112.7
Procurement of animal husbandry products	96.2
within this:	
live animals	94.1
animal products	104.0
Achievement of transportation enterprises	
Goods delivery (based on tonnage/km)	131.9
Long-distance transportation of passengers (based on passenger/km)	102.4
Population revenues from central sources	108.6
Consumer price index	118.5
within this:	
January 1988 compared with December 1987	108.0
February 1988 compared with January 1988	100.2

In January-February 1988, production of state industrial enterprises and cooperatives exceeded the level of 1 year earlier by 1.4 percent and, excluding the food industry, by 1.9 percent. Production in branches producing materials increased at the fastest rate, by 4.9 percent. As a result of fast development in the chemical industry, the processing industry increased production by 1.3 percent. The production of the power engineering branches remained essentially on the same level as in 1987; the relatively mild winter this year also played a role in this. Industry marketed 4.2 percent less on the domestic market and exported almost 10 percent more than the in same period in 1987. Exports accounted both in rubles and in convertible currency increased; exports accounted in convertible currency increased more than the average. The supply of industrial goods to both the wholesale and retail trade were the same as in the same period in 1987. The number of people employed decreased by 2.6 percent compared with January-February 1987. The per-capita production increased by 4.1 percent, and production per hour of work increased by 3.5 percent. The mild weather also contributed to increasing construction activity. The construction sector of the building industry carried out 20 percent more construction and installation work than a year earlier. It was primarily underground and high-rise construction projects that increased; production in the construction and installation branch was similar to that of 1987. The performance of both state and cooperative contractors increased. The number of employees increased somewhat; productivity increased considerably.

The procurement of live animals decreased by 5.9 percent in the first 2 months of 1988. This decrease was characteristic of the procurement of pigs, cattle, and sheep for slaughter. The marketing of slaughter poultry further increased. The procurement of animal products—mainly because of the increased sale of milk—exceeded the level of 1 year earlier by 4 percent.

Compared with the first 2 months of 1987, retail trade turnover accounted in current prices increased by 7.7 percent; in comparable prices it decreased by 9.3 percent. The quantity of marketed goods decreased by 18.8 percent in the case of clothing articles; by 11.8 percent in the case of food, beverages, and tobacco sold in shops; and by 3.6 percent in the case of miscellaneous industrial articles. Turnover in the catering industry—also accounted in comparable prices—was 16.9 percent less than at the same time last year.

Advanced purchases made at the end of 1987 and price increases played a role in the decrease in the retail trade turnover.

The consumer price index was 18.5 percent higher than a year before. More than 9 percent of this increase occurred between January and December 1987, and prices increased by 8 percent from December 1987 to January 1988, and by 0.2 percent from January to February 1988. Prices of basic consumer articles increased most steeply.

Some 26.5 percent more than in the same period in 1987 was spent on the investments of socialist organs, due to a strong increase in central and enterprise investments. The amount of money allocated for local council investments decreased.

The volume of imports during the first 2 months of 1988 lagged somewhat behind the 1987 volume (although their value accounted in forints exceeded the figure for 1987). The volume of goods imported from hard currency markets considerably decreased; ruble-accounted imports considerably increased. The quantity (and value) of exported goods accounted both in rubles and in convertible currency greatly increased. Instead of the deficit in ruble-accounted turnover in 1987, a small surplus developed. In the turnover accounted in convertible currency this year the value of imports also exceeded the value of exports; the deficit, however, was considerably smaller than in 1987.

Gorbachev To Visit 'Beginning of Summer'

LD142053 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1700 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Excerpt] Foreign Ministry Press Spokesman Stefan Staniszewski held his monthly press conference with Polish and foreign journalists. Krystyna Koziol has asked him to give a brief interview.

[Begin recording] [Koziol] You always begin your conference with a calendar of visits. Can I ask you to mention the most important visits in the near future?

[Staniszewski] In the near future we expect a Norwegian visit; the Bulgarian minister of foreign affairs—all that is in April. May will be another month of hard work. We are expecting several visits by guests from Asia to Poland and our minister [as heard] will also be traveling, probably to Spain.

Mrs Thatcher's visit was scheduled for May, but on exactly the same days that the Reagan visit to Moscow was later planned; so Mrs Thatcher's visit was postponed and will most probably take place in the early fall.

[Koziol] We are interested in the date of Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Poland. He is to come here after the meeting with Reagan, after the Moscow summit, but the date of the meeting of the leaders of the Warsaw Pact states in Warsaw has also been announced. Will Gorbachev be coming to that meeting too?

[Staniszewski] Mikhail Gorbachev will not be coming to Poland straight after Reagan's visit to Moscow, if only because he has a conference at home, near the end of June. Mikhail Gorbachev will be coming to Poland at the beginning of the summer on the first official friendly visit.

The socialist countries' summit is scheduled for the second half of the year too. Mikhail Gorbachev will be taking part in it. These will be two opportunities for him to spend time in Poland. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Jaruzelski Receives USSR's Akhromeyev

LD141615 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1500 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Army General Wojciech Jaruzelski, head of the armed forces of the Polish People's Republic, has received Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Akhromeyev, chief of the General Staff of the Soviet Union Armed Forces and first Deputy Minister of Defense, who is staying in our country. During the meeting, which was held in a friendly atmosphere, views were exchanged on the political and military situation and directions for perfecting cooperation between the Soviet Army and the Polish Army were discussed. Army General Florian Siwicki, minister of National Defense, and General Jozef Uzycki, chief of the Polish Army General Staff and deputy minister of National Defense, took part in the meeting.

Official Views Economic Talks With USSR

LD140936 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 2050 GMT 12 Apr 88

[Interview with Zdzislaw Kurowski, Polish deputy minister of foreign economic cooperation, by Andrzej Szczawinski; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] Now, we come back to Zbigniew Messner's visit to Moscow last week. Here is our interview on the subject:

[Szczawinski] A communique after a Council of Ministers meeting emphasized the great importance of the visit, and the talks held by Premier Messner in the Soviet Union. Where lies the great importance and significance of the visit?

[Kurowski] I understand that the unique character of the visit lies in the fact that it was the review of the whole of our political and economic relations with the Soviet Union. Ask me about an economic aspect of the visit, and our conversation will focus on the subject.

[Szczawinski] Yes, indeed. A picture, which came out after the review, was not entirely optimistic. Difficulties, and hinderances to our economic relations were discussed.

[Kurowski] I want to say, that a characteristic feature of the visit was the frankness and the openness in discussing all aspects, including difficulties in our cooperation. And there are many difficulties, as in life, and one can talk here about continuing dissatisfaction as regards the quality of our goods, and their modernity. One can certainly be dissatisfied with the slow pace of introducing new production and technology in our countries. We have to do a lot to speed up both scientific and technological progress in our economic cooperation.

[Szczawinski] At the same time there was a number of new and favorable agreements. What do they consist of, and what was been agreed?

[Kurowski] One can talk about two period sections of the agreements. What has to be done for the improvement in the present 5-year period, and what has to be done to program the next 5-year period wisely and economically? Regarding immediate issues, the Soviet Government has promised a credit for the balancing, or rather a partial balancing of our debit balance in payment relations with the Soviet Union. It is known that the beginning of the eighties were rather exceptional for our economy, thus a certain indebtedness emerged, and it influenced our present capacity to payment. The Polish side put the issue forward to our Soviet partner in the context of rescheduling the debts, and in the context of getting new credits for balancing our current turnover. The assurance has been given, concerning the present year, and by the end of this year we shall get a credit, which allow us to balance our payments. This is one very concrete and important issue. Even more important has been the issue of raw materials. The Soviet Government has agreed to supply, in the next 5-year period—in 1991-95—fuels and raw materials at the same level as in 1986-90.

[Szczawinski] Excuse me, minister, but is it particularly difficult to continue the supplies at the same level as at present?

[Kurowski] It is indeed, as for maintaining the extraction, especially of oil the Soviet Union allocates great financial means, and the assurance we have is not related to Poland's participation in the investments in raw materials extraction. Therefore, it has been very favorable for our economy to be able to obtain raw materials without participating in investment outlays.

[Szczawinski] Finally, minister, please say a few words about the new quality in our economic cooperation.

[Kurowski] Before, I would like to talk about the important third issue. We have a certain foreign currency indebtedness towards the Soviet Union amounting to $1.6 billion, and in response to our request the Soviet Government has agreed to defer the payment of our debts by 10 years. This is very important for us, as regards our development planning for immediate years. As far as the new quality is concerned, this new quality has been a chance for opening a new stage. We are aware, that we have to improve a lot in our cooperation. We would like it to be based on a wide scientific and technological cooperation, on speeding up technological progress in our industry and our economy as a whole, and on cooperation between enterprises, including the creation of joint enterprises. It all goes not without problems, and we have many reason for being unsatisfied. We create certain legal acts, we are going to improve them, and the visit served the course of thoroughly reviewing all difficulties. Both sides are determined to remove all obstacles existing in cooperation of our both economies.

Report on Foreign Ministry News Conference

LD141756 Warsaw PAP in English
1505 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Warsaw, April 14: Today's news conference of Polish Foreign Ministry Spokesman Stefan Staniszewski focused on the forthcoming Gorbachev-Reagan summit, Geneva agreement between Afghanistan and Pakistan, situation in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories and on Poland's relations with Scandinavian countries and the Federal Republic of Germany.

Gorbachev-Reagan Summit [subhead]

We received with satisfaction the announcement of the summit meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan to be held in Moscow late May and early June, said Stefan Staniszewski when opening the conference. From the Polish point of view, we attach basic importance to an agreement on the 50-per-cent reduction in the strategic nuclear arsenals of the USSR and the U.S.

We cherish the hope that the two sides overcoming existing obstacles and agree on the provisions of the new treaty. We also expect that the Moscow summit will advance the cause of conventional disarmament and further military detente in Europe, which lies very much at Poland's heart. This is one of our priorities at the CSCE Vienna meetings, emphasized the Foreign Ministry spokesman.

Continuing the subject of disarmament, Stefan Staniszewski referred to the meeting of foreign ministers of the Warsaw-Treaty member-states (Sofia, March 29 and 30), and said that the meeting had advanced discussion of the Jaruzelski Plan and expressed unanimous support for it. Besides widely generated interest, the support gives rise to expectations that Poland will make a further contribution of her (political) thought to the joint offer of the Warsaw-Treaty member-states.

Speaking about the Polish proposal, said the foreign ministry spokesman, we must positively evaluate the fact that direct contacts were undertaken by the defence ministers of the USSR and the U.S. (The Yazov-Carlucci meeting in Bern on March 16 and 17) with regard to military aspects of security, and military doctrines in particular.

This is a new and important channel for the Soviet-American dialogue on military issues, a significant factor of consolidation of mutual confidence and favourable climate in the East-West relations. It is worthwhile to stress here, thus, that the Jaruzelski Plan pertains, among other issues, to the alteration of the character of military doctrines so that they could be reciprocally recognized as defensive, said the Foreign Ministry spokesman.

Stefan Staniszewski announced that in the course of the coming weeks Poland would be most probably ready to put forward new ideas to develop certain passages of the Jaruzelski Plan.

Afghan-Pakistani Agreement [subhead]

Polish public opinion welcomed with satisfaction the announcement of signing the agreements on peaceful settlement of the Afghan problem, said Stefan Staniszewski next. Premises have been thus established to restore long-awaited peace to the Afghan lands, and there is a chance to re-establish peaceful and good-neighbourly relations between the states of that region.

Faithful to the principles of her policy, Poland is prepared to contribute to this historic cause. The secretary-general of the United Nations approached several states with an enquiry whether they would be willing to join a control and supervision commission to be founded after the agreements are signed.

Poland was among the countries he approached with his enquiry. It was but a probing question which did not imply an official invitation. It is my belief, stressed the Foreign Ministry spokesman, that should Poland be officially invited to join the commission we would accept the invitation. We should like to contribute to a successful materialization of the documents signed in Geneva, Staniszewski emphasized.

Situation in Occupied Arab Territories [subhead]

Asked about the marking of the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising in the light of the Polish stance with regard to the situation in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories, Stefan Staniszewski said that the tribute to Jewish fighters who struggled against Nazism was part of Polish tradition and attitude towards history, since the fighters had been Polish nationals and had struggled for the same cause.

However, said the Foreign Ministry Spokesman, this emotional attitude bears no influence upon our policy towards Israel. Brutal reprisals employed by the Israeli authorities against the Palestinian population arouse universal outrage and world's condemnation.

We are fully at one with those feelings. We express a determined protest against the Israeli policies and call for realism and observance of international laws. We declare ourselves to be in favour of acceleration of the preparations for the international conference on the Middle-East to be held under the auspices of the United Nations, underlined Stefan Staniszewski.

Poland's Relations With Scandinavian Countries and FRG [subhead]

Poland's relations with Scandinavian countries are developing favourably, said Stefan Staniszewski when replying to another question. We are gradually returning to the traditional political dialogue with these countries, which does not imply, though, that all possibilities have been exhausted.

We are, he went on, interested in the development of all-round cooperation will all the Scandinavian countries. Not only do we consider the political dialogue with Scandinavian countries a stimulant of development of our relations in various fields, but we perceive it in a broader aspect, as building the structure of international relations in Europe, and particularly in the Baltic Sea region.

In the coming period we shall be also developing an intensive political dialogue with the Federal Republic of Germany. Elimination of obstacles which hamper further progress in the process of normalization of our relations with the Federal Republic would establish premises for a Polish visit by the Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl, ventured the Foreign Ministry spokesman.

Orzechowski Attends Sejm Committee Session

LD140910 Warsaw PAP in English
1659 GMT 13 Apr 88

[Text] Warsaw, April 13—The Sejm Committee for Foreign Affairs discussed today the Poland-Federal Republic of Germany relations. The meeting was attended by CC PUWP Political Bureau member, Minister of Foreign Affairs Marian Orzechowski.

The committee voiced full support for the government policy towards the FRG which aims to reach full normalization and comprehensive development of mutual relations. The deputies were pointing out that the only platform for shaping these relations can be the 1970 treaty where FRG confirmed the Odra and Nysa Luzycka Rivers border line of Poland.

The committee accentuated the particular importance of the view that the decisions made last January during the visit of West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher in Poland, and concerning the intensification of efforts aimed to produce palpable improvement and increase substance in all the important spheres of relations, deserve a comprehensive support.

Progress in the relations between Poland and the FRG, apart from measurable profits for both sides, would be an important contribution of both states in consolidating the positive trends in the East-West relations initiated by the USSR and United States last December with the conclusion of the INF Treaty.

The committee stressed the special significance of the economic problems in Polish-FRG relations and pointed to the fact that a necessary premise for development in economic cooperation—corresponding with the available possibilities and needs—is return to normal financial and crediting relations. The meeting voiced an expectation that the FRG, the largest Western partner of Poland in trade and economic cooperation, will soon start respective steps and decisions in this field, serving the interests of both sides.

The committee stressed the significance of the favourably and intensely developing contacts between the parliaments of Poland and the FRG for the cause of development in mutual relations. They declared readiness and willingness also in future to continue this way of contributing to the development of the process of normalization between both states and societies.

The committee acquainted themselves with letters recently delivered to Sejm Speaker Roman Malinowski from chairman of the National Assembly of the Republic of Iraq Sa'dun Hammadi and spokesman of the Islamic Consultative Assembly of the Islamic Republic of Iran 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The committee is of the opinion that all governments of the world should give full support to the U.N. efforts aimed at terminating the war between Iraq and Iran. They expressed the view that the use of poisonous gases is against the basic principles of humanism and the international law, regardless of who, when, and where uses them and what are his motivations.

Norwegian Foreign Minister To Visit 25-27 Apr

LD122029 Warsaw PAP in English
1358 GMT 12 Apr 88

[Text] Warsaw, April 12—At an invitation from his Polish counterpart, Minister Marian Orzechowski, the minister of foreign affairs of the Kingdom of Norway, Thorvald Stoltenberg will pay an official visit to Poland on April 25-27.

Belgian Trade Union Delegation Visits

LD121241 Warsaw PAP in English
2052 GMT 11 Apr 88

[Text] Warsaw, April 11—The president of the All-Poland Alliance of Trade Union [OPZZ] Alfred Miodowicz received here today vice president of the Belgian public service workers trade union Mon Rooses who is also the board member of the Federation Generale du Travail [FGTB].

The delegation from Belgium got acquainted with the activity and problems of trade unions in Poland. The sides also discussed prospects of Polish-Belgian trade unionists' cooperation.

Judiciary, Commercial Agreement Signed

TA121906 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish
1600 GMT 12 Apr 88

[Text] Turkey and Poland have signed an agreement in Warsaw on legal assistance in judiciary and commercial issues.

Justice Minister Oltan Sungurlu, currently in Poland on an official visit, and Polish Justice Minister Lech Domeracki signed the agreement for Turkey and Poland respectively.

Sungurlu today called on Kazimierz Barcikowski, deputy chairman of the Polish Council of State; and Jozef Koziol, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers. Economic, commercial, and judicial relations between the two countries, the extradition of convicts, and the transfer of prisoners were taken up during the talks.

Jaruzelski Receives Outgoing GDR Ambassador

LD150347 Warsaw PAP in English
1657 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Warsaw, April 14—Today, Wojciech Jaruzelski received ambassador of the German Democratic Republic to Poland Horst Neubauer ending his tour of duty in this country.

Also today the Polish leader received Polish ambassador to the Swiss Confederation Zdzislaw Czeszejko-Sochacki.

Messner Receives Afghan Deputy Premier

LD132256 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish
1700 GMT 13 Apr 88

[Text] Zbigniew Messner received Mahbollah Koshani, first secretary of the Revolutionary Organization of Workers of Afghanistan, deputy premier, and chairman of the Planning Committee of the Republic of Afghanistan. The meeting, which among other things was devoted to cooperation and mutual relations, was attended by Zdzislaw Sadowski. Marian Wozniak also received the Afghan guest. Afterwards the Afghan guest met Kazimierz Modzelewski, chairman of the National Crafts Council.

Council of Ministers 11 Apr Session

AU141151 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish
12 Apr 88 p 2

[Text] PAP—The Government Press Office reports that on 11 April the Council of Ministers acquainted itself with a report on the visit paid by Zbigniew Messner, chairman of the Council of Ministers, to Moscow on 5 to 6 April. It was stressed that the visit was the most important event in Polish-Soviet relations since the signing in April of last year of the Declaration on Cooperation in the Fields of Ideology, Science, and Culture by W. Jaruzelski and M. Gorbachev.

The high status accorded the visit by the Soviet side was reflected in, among other things, the fact that the chairman of the Council of Ministers was received by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and the important, substantive decisions made as a result of the visit. It also marked an important stage in preparations for the Soviet leader's visit to our country.

The talks and meetings with Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and other representatives of political and economic life in the USSR made it possible to conduct an in-depth and comprehensive review of the state of mutual cooperation, especially in the economic and scientific and technical spheres. The main idea was to expose all the obstacles hindering cooperation as well as to set out concrete and, at the same time, real programs for the further development of cooperation by promoting qualitatively new and economically mutually advantageous forms of Polish-Soviet cooperation in the economic and scientific research spheres.

During the course of the visit, important decisions were made regarding prospects for the development of our national economy and the intensification of trade and economic cooperation. They pertain to the whole range of issues connected with ensuring supplies of Soviet raw materials to Poland, repaying debts owed the USSR on favorable terms, and involvement by the USSR in the completion of investment projects that have been mothballed. The outcome of the visit and the decisions that were made will assist the development of relations between Poland and the Soviet Union that are mutually advantageous, innovative, and exemplary in terms of their scale and level of activity in all areas of life in the two states and that of their peoples. The Council of Ministers adopted a schedule for the implementation of joint decisions.

On the basis of proposals submitted by the president of the Polish National Bank, the Council of Ministers adopted a decision on establishing nine state credit banks: They will be: the Gdansk Bank in Gdansk, the Slask Bank in Katowice, the Trade and Industry Bank in Krakow, the Credit and Deposit Bank in Lublin, the General Economic Bank in Lodz, the Wielkopolski Credit Bank in Poznan, the Pomeranian Credit Bank in Szczecin, the State Credit Bank in Warsaw, and the Western Bank in Wroclaw. These banks will be created by removing certain departments from the Polish National Bank network and will commence operations on 1 January 1989.

These institutions will have a universal character, which means that they will offer all credit, current account, savings and other services provide for by the banking law to customers in all sectors of the economy. They will be able to operate throughout the country. Along with the introduction of the principle that enterprises be allowed to select their banks and the opportunity for banks to set different charges for services and different interest rates (the interests charged on loans as well as the interest paid on savings) conditions will be created for competition between both new existing banks. Financial performance will be one criterion used in assessing the operation of these banks.

The present organization of the banking system is characterized by a high level of central decisionmaking, which has seriously limited enterprise in banking. The new banking system will create greater opportunities for bank employees to full use their inventiveness. This can only take place on the basis of a decentralization of powers and responsibility in conducting credit operations and consistently basing banks' credit operations on the principles of independence and self-financing.

Alongside the process of organizing new banks, there will be a change in the functions and structure of the Polish National Bank.

The operations of the Polish National Bank as the state's central bank and as a "bank for other banks" will be directed chiefly toward shaping monetary policy and strengthening the role of money in the country's economic life.

The Polish National Bank will also cooperate on convertible currency policy, the balance of payments, exchange rate policy, and accounting procedures between banks and will represent Poland's interest in international banking organizations.

The government decisions are a turning point in transforming the banking system to adapt it to principles of economic reform. Economic reform and reform of the banking system benefit each other in that progress in developing and consolidating fiscal and market conditions encourages the development of banks, and the necessary changes in the banking system can be important factors in restoring economic balance, improving efficiency, modernizing economic structures, and, especially shoring up the development of market conditions in the economy.

The Council of Ministers adopted the comprehensive program for conserving activities in material production and the budget in 1988 and the following years. That program evaluates the results of the 1986 program for raising the effectiveness of the use of materials, fuels, and energy in 1986-90 and for conservation measures in budgetary units. It deals with proposals for necessary changes and modifications, lays down deadlines for implementation, and lists institutions responsible for realizing 28 conservation tasks of utmost importance for the economy.

In line with the 1986-90 socioeconomic plan and the executive program for the second stage of economic reform, the increase in national income and production in the next few years will greatly depend on increases in the effectiveness of managing all the potential of the state. In particular, we must reduce the energy and material intensiveness of production and national income. The realization of the 1983-85 conservation plan has demonstrated that consistent savings have greatly helped to implement the plan.

Compared with 1985, the energy intensiveness of national income was reduced by 2.8 percent in 1986, while the annual rate for 1986-90 has been planned at 1.9-2.3 percent. However, mainly because of bad weather, a clear slow-down occurred in this process in 1987. The rate of reducing the material intensity of national income was also slowed down: In 1986-87 it amounted to 1.3 percent on the average, instead of the planned 1.2-1.7 percent. What is most disturbing is poor progress in reducing the material intensity of construction for a number of years now.

The realization of three-quarters of the tasks posed by the program for measures to increase effectiveness began at the end of 1987, but the fulfillment of these tasks is inconsistent. Among other things, delays have occurred in the production of electric engines, industrial pumps, and measuring equipment used for rationalizing technological processes throughout the national economy. Tangible production and conservation results achieved this year will promote progress in the production of modern insulating materials for construction trades and will make it possible to cut losses in agriculture and farm-food industries. Government orders cover over one-third of production tasks, mainly in electronics and in the processing and storing of farm produce and food. These tasks include thermostats for automated heating installations, the comprehensive automation of heating systems in Poznan and Szczecin, the expansion of railroad rolling stock repair plants, and the construction of 18 grain elevators and three cold storage facilities. However, despite priorities, enterprises continue to show little interest in launching conservation investments.

The results of voivodship austerity programs give no cause for satisfaction, especially in exploiting small seams of brown coal, turf, waste timber, local gas deposits, thermal and solar energy, industrial waste, and by-products. There are considerable differences in economizing between voivodships. For example, the amount of reused non-metal raw materials per head in Lodz Voivodship was over four times higher than in Tarnobrzeg Voivodship. The fact that some voivodships were ahead in the reuse of materials, including Leszno, Poznan, and Zielona Gora, and others far behind, notably Piotrkow, Tarnow, Czestochowa, and Kielce, clearly shows that existing possibilities are not being used everywhere.

Even though there are comprehensive incentive systems which encourage austerity (prizes, competitions, tax concessions, and preferential loans, as well as fines for the overconsumption of fuels and energy), their effect is insufficient and should be stronger, especially in materials production.

The Council of Ministers approved essential adjustments and amendments to the "1986-90 Program of Action To Rationalize the Consumption of Material and Fuel-Energy Resources."

The Government Planning Commission and the relevant ministers and heads of central offices were placed under an obligation to submit by the end of the year supplementary austerity programs covering the period 1986-90. These programs will cover particularly transportation, goods turnover, the procurement of agricultural produce, and employment. Local state administrative bodies at all levels should take greater part in working out these programs, so that they may take into account local possibilities.

In the budgetary sphere, last year's austerity measures brought considerable savings, amounting to Z70 billion.

Following last year's changes in the functioning and structure of the central state administration, similar changes to voivodship administrative bodies will occur in 1988. Administrative procedures are already being simplified in accordance with recommendations issued by the council of voivodas. Some tasks will be transferred to heads of enterprises, factories, and institutions. Experience has shown that the state administration is discharging its duties concerning economizing punctually and in a disciplined manner. But because its running costs only take up 2 percent of total state budgetary expenditures, savings should be made chiefly in the economy and in state-financed institutions.

In pursuance of the decisions of the Sixth Central Committee Plenum, the review and certification of jobs in bodies supervised by ministers and heads of central offices and in those governed by local state administrative bodies will be intensified. This year there will be a review of ministerial research institutions, taking into account their results and running costs.

The Council of Ministers decided to implement further austerity measures stemming from this year's budgetary law.

The Government Planning Commission was charged with coordinating the implementation of that part of the "program of austerity measures in the national economy" dealing with materials production. The minister of finance was charged with coordinating that part of it dealing with the budget.

The Council of Ministers approved draft changes to the budgetary law.

As part of the procedure of granting greater independence to local government bodies, the law calls for changes in the ways in which people's councils at all levels manage their funds. The changes to the budgetary law are designed to expand their sources of income and make the rules governing the use of funds more flexible. The income of the people's councils will be augmented by funds provided by the enterprises that are covered by the present regional plan and by 5 to 10 percent of the income tax paid by enterprises covered by the central plan. The budgets of primary-level people's councils will also be augmented by income from cooperatives in their area and from branches of institutions whose headquarters are in another voivodship. In addition, it is envisaged that trade companies where most of the capital was invested by private economic units will pay tax into voivodship budgets.

An important feature of the new solutions is the aim to balance out primary budgets, among other ways by permitting an unrestricted transfer of excess funds. This will permit an easing of the financial situation of some primary-level people's councils.

The Council of Ministers examined a preliminary report on last year's budget. State budgetary income was 5.1 percent greater than planned, and expenditures 0.5 percent greater. The year 1987 closed with a deficit of Z122 billion. This sum was about 2 percent of last year's expenditures.

Subsidies were a major burden on the budget. They occupied 30 percent of budgetary expenditure, 13.1 percent more than in 1986. Food subsidies rose by 44 percent, non-food by 37 percent, and on supplies for agriculture by 33.5 percent. However, subsidies for the metal, machine, chemical, and light industries fell.

State budgetary spending on culture, education, health, and social security rose faster than spending in other areas.

In connection with shortcomings in the supply of baked goods to the population and mismanagement of the herring catch, pointed out by the mass media, the chairman of the Council of Ministers asked the relevant ministers to urgently examine the reasons behind this, apply personnel sanctions, and inform public opinion about the results.

Messner in Textile Workers Day

Receives Textile Representatives

LD141256 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1200 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] To mark the approaching textile workers day, Premier Zbigniew Messner met representatives of textile workers and thanked them for their everyday efforts. He also conveyed best wishes from Wojciech Jaruzelski. At the meeting, the premier's guests spoke about difficulties in their enterprises, including raw materials and spare parts. They also spoke about difficult working conditions and about the unwillingness of young people to work in textile factories due below pay.

Discusses Economic Textile 'Dilemmas'

LD150854 Warsaw PAP in English 2034 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Warsaw. April 14—Before the forthcoming day of textile and leather industry workers, Prime Minister Zbigniew Messner met here today with a several-dozen-strong group of workers who represented all the 11 branches of the industry.

The meeting served as an occasion for discussing working conditions in light industry factories and prospects for the industry's development. Also discussed were issues pertaining to the operation of the entire economy and application of the second stage of economic reforms.

Prime Minister Nessner presented the current economic dilemmas which he described as "short blanket dilemmas". If you pull the blanket to one side, the other side remains exposed.

One cannot, however, agree with the attitude which is sometimes favoured, he said, that no changes are taking place in the economy, that there is no progress, no modernization. The problem is that one would like to see an immediate improvement, but in the recent circumstances, particularly with the vast burden of debt servicing, improvement is being attained gradually, in a manner that not always is immediately visible.

However, it would suffice to compare the current situation to the situation of few years before and see the distance that has been covered. Currently undertaken measures related to the second stage of economic reforms, the prime minister said, should yield palpable results in two-or-three-years' time.

Press Views Economy, Solidarity, Dogmatism

AU140957 Warsaw POLITYKA in Polish 9 Apr 88 p 2

[From the "press review"]

[Excerpts] ZYCIE LITERACKIE on 3 April published a statement by Stanislaw Kociolek [former PZPR leader], chief editor of POLISH PERSPECTIVES. Here is an excerpt from it:

A radical economic reform continues to be realized in Poland since 1982. It is now being accelerated to the accompaniment of the increasingly aggressive pushing by the media of the concept providing for the expansion of the private-capitalist sector and of the ownership and capital relations typical of capitalism. Time will show whether we will go in this direction, whether this line will help solve national problems, and what political results will follow. Five years of the reform have proved that, given every political determination, this task is quite complicated and the results are not quite explicit. If people call the sixties the years of stagnation, what name should be given to the eighties? Should we evaluate them as the years of development, success, hope, and fulfilled aspirations of Poles, especially younger Poles? [passage omitted]

SLOWO LUDU on 2 March published an interview with Prof Dr Artur Bodnar, a political expert, by Marek Sobiecki. Here is an excerpt from it:

[Bodnar] Let us at last stop convulsively sticking to the principle that that is important which is ideologically correct and not that which is economically more effective. Let us remember that, compared with other European countries, Poland still continues to get poorer.

Let us steer clear of ideological bunkers. For example, at one time we decided that bankruptcy contradicted the nature of socialism. As a result, while eliminating the capitalist exploitation of man by man, we have developed our own form of exploitation: group exploitation. Not everything can be explained away with the help of the supreme reasons of state. As things are, some workers collectives live (and often do quite well) at the cost of other collectives, ones that are more efficient and productive.... [passage omitted]

REPORTER, Issue 3/88, published an interview with Prof Dr Jozef Kaleta, an economist, by Aldona Lukomska. Here is an excerpt from it:

[Kaleta] In the course of their lives Marx and Engels often changed their views about socialism, but our dogmatists still want to shape reality in line with the 19th century recipes. Let me cite Gorbachev again. He said that in principle we should consign to a waste paper basket whatever has been created in the social sciences in the past period and that we should face the true realities of life. Science, every science, always needs to review its tenets. In the 19th century Marx and Engels predicted that the workers class would become a complete pauper under capitalism and that small enterprises would disappear and only large supranational oligopolies would remain. But this did not happen. Do we then have to pretend that we still know nothing about it?

ZWIAZKOWIEC on 27 March published an interview with Kazimierz Obsadny, chairman of the trade union organization in the Ponar-Ostrzeszow mechanical equipment plant, by Ryszard Naleszkiewicz. Here is an excerpt from it:

[Obsadny] I was a Solidarity activist and attended the Solidarity Congress in Gdansk. I was interned twice. I was chairman of the workers council for two terms. Our self-management body was suspended, rehabilitated, and suspended again. A punitive measure, in a way. (...) Our workers council did not like that our plant belonged as a man to the Volunteer Reserve of Citizens' Militia. Why as a man? The council wanted only those who wished to, to join the reserve as individual members. This was reason enough for the minister to suspend the council for 6 months. Later on the plant's party organization applied for the council's rehabilitation. (...)

[Reporter] Most of your colleagues, leading activists of Solidarity, obeyed the appeal for boycott and did not join the reborn trade unions, but you became the chairman of the new trade union. Are you a collaborator?

[Obsadny] I do not do any work for the regime trade unions.

[Reporter] Hold your horses! You work for official trade unions based on official laws....

[Obsadny] The explanation is simple: Only fools may think that the laws can be opposed. One has to act within the law—legally and effectively. There are many ways to do this.

ZDANIE, Issue 1/88, published a statement by publicist Dominik Horodynski. Here is an excerpt from it:

One might think that doctrinairism and dogmatic thinking are no problem any more, but I would not be such an optimist. The party at its various levels is without bold exchanges of views about the basic, programmatic issues and without open clashes of views, which at a time like this are bound to differ and are different—often very different—from member to member. As never before in the past 40 years is it now necessary for party intellectuals to speak up—not to pontificate, but to stimulate and add quality to the discussion about the central problems of socialist development, problems which, in our situation, must be seen and conceived in a new way.

We are now at the great crossroads of historic dimensions, and it would be naive optimism to assume that we will be able to negotiate this crossroads without conflicts and perhaps even without a collision. Well, I fear that—if more serious difficulties appear, which very well may—the scarcity of genuine intellectual life within the party can cause a violent return to dogmatism, and this would inevitably produce a serious threat to our state.

PAP Criticizes RFE Reports on Agriculture

LD150353 Warsaw PAP in English
1644 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Warsaw, April 14—Even a most naive Polish listener, and particularly a farmer, would find the comments Radio Free Europe makes on Polish countryside and Polish agriculture more than hard to believe. And hence, in order to establish appearances of at least some credibility of their deliberations, and since they do not have arguments and facts available, Radio Free Europe journalists have been recently quoting the congress of the United Peasants' Party (UPP), which was convened in late March here.

Not by a single word do they refer to the fact that the UPP congress fully approved of the joint agricultural policy and expressed a determination to consistently implement it. Instead, issues that have long been decided upon or taken up by the authorities are being attributed to the congress.

The UPP congress, says Radio Free Europe, moved to eliminate monopoly in procurement and distribution of agricultural produce. Free Europe seems to have forgotten, though, that the issue had already been settled last year under the tenets of the second stage of economic reforms and acquired precise interpretation in the government implementation programme which was adopted by the Polish Sejm.

Those who read newspapers, not necessarily Polish but American as well, would have learnt several months before that the Polish authorities were introducing further decentralization and restructuring of the economy as well as de-monopolization of trade. And it was those measures that were approved of by the UPP congress.

Radio Free Europe got carried away as far as to declare that over 40 per cent of the rural population of Poland live on potatoes and flour, while fruit (though available in the countryside in every backyard garden) are consumed once in the blue moon, chiefly at the time of a major public holiday. Apparently, they must have realized that no one sensible would believe a pack of such banal lies and thus they tried to put those words in the mouths of some unspecified delegates to the UPP congress.

All this lacks not only sense or logic but consistency as well. On the one hand, Radio Free Europe condemns the UPP for alleged subservience towards the authorities and the PUWP, and on the other—it quotes the very same UPP as a major critic of the party and government policies.

Ceausescu Continues Official Australian Visit

Concludes Visit to Queensland

AU141320 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
1306 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Brisbane, AGERPRES, 14/4/1988—Thursday, April 14, the president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu, and Mme Elena Ceausescu concluded their visit to the State of Queensland and made for Perth, the capital city of Western Australia.

Like in Canberra, the visit to Queensland took place under the sign of the best auspices for the future evolution of ties of friendship and collaboration between the peoples of the two countries, of mutual esteem and understanding.

Before the distinguished Romanian guests' departure, the governor and the premier of Queensland expressed their satisfaction for the understandings reached during the visit on the expansion of economic cooperation between companies in Brisbane and Romanian enterprises.

President Nicolae Ceausescu and Mme Elena Ceausescu thanked for the reception extended to them, underlining that they left with the finest impressions of the talks conducted with the governor and the premier of Queensland, with managerial staff of mining companies.

Both sides emphasized that the Brisbane meetings and talks constituted themselves an outstanding contribution to taking the relations between the two countries to a higher level, to their assertion as an example of links that can be established and develop, irrespective of geographical distance or differences of sociopolitical system, when will is shown to promote close collaboration on mutually advantageous bases, for the benefit of both peoples, of understanding and cooperation worldwide.

President Nicolae Ceausescu and Mme Elena Ceausescu invited the governor and premier of Queensland and their wives to visit Romania and learn about the Romanian people's achievements and life. The invitation was accepted with special satisfaction.

Seen off at the airport in Brisbane by Governor Walter Campbell and Mme Georgina Campbell as well as by Premier M.J. Ahern, the Romanian people's messengers took a warm leave from the hosts who parted them with feelings of warm friendship and wished them an as pleasant sojourn as possible in Australia.

Arrives in Western Australia

AU141321 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
1313 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 14/4/1988—As part of the official visit he is paying to Australia, the president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu, and Mme Elena Ceausescu arrived in the State of Western Australia Thursday afternoon.

The distinguished Romanian guests were cordially welcomed at the airport in Perth by Governor Gordon Reid and Mme Ruth Reid, as well as by Peter M'Callum Dowding, premier of the State of Western Australia, and David Parker, vice-premier and minister of economic development and trade, with their wives, and by other Australian officials.

From the airport the Romanian people's messengers, accompanied by the hosts, made for their residence in Perth where they cordially conversed with the state's governor and his wife.

Receives Western Australian Premier

AU141425 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
1358 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Perth, AGERPRES, 14/04/1988—On Thursday, April 14, in Perth, Romania's President Nicolae Ceausescu and Madame Elena Ceausescu received Peter M'Callum Dowding, premier of the State of Western Australia.

The attendance included David Parker, deputy prime minister and minister of economic development and trade.

Premier Peter M'Callum Dowding appreciated that President Nicolae Ceausescu's official visit to Australia and to the State of Western Australia would mark a new and important moment in the expansion of the Romanian-Australian collaboration on multiple planes.

President Nicolae Ceausescu emphasized that the visit to Australia proved the two countries' wish to develop the friendly and cooperative relations which had seen a positive evolution in the last years.

During the interview stress was laid on the fruitful collaboration that had been established and was developing with the state of Western Australia and conditions were considered to be in place for its further intensification and diversification. Concrete ways and means were discussed for the expansion of economic collaboration and trade exchanges on the basis of long-term accords.

The interview was held in a cordial atmosphere.

Dascalescu, Giosan Greet PRC Officials

AU141137 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian
12 Apr 88 p 5

[Text] Comrade Constantin Dascalescu, prime minister of the Government of the SR of Romania, extended warm congratulations and best wishes for success to Comrade Li Peng, on his appointment as premier of the PRC State Council. The telegram expresses the conviction that the Romanian and Chinese Governments will continue to work, in the spirit of high level talks and understandings, to further develop the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries and peoples.

Likewise, Comrade Nicolae Giosan, chairman of the Grand National Assembly extended cordial congratulations and best wishes to Comrade Wan Li, on his election as chairman of the Standing Committee of the PRC National People's Congress.

Cooperation Stressed at UN/ECE Session

AU141850 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
1807 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Geneva, AGERPRES, 14/04/1988—Taking the floor during the general debates of the 43rd session of the UN Economic Commission for Europe [UN/ECE] in Geneva, the Romanian chief delegate highlighted the need for a broad and unhampered growth of cooperation in the economic, technical, scientific and other domains among the countries of the continent, for the removal of obstacles from its path, for a Europe united in its diversity through a productive cooperation among the countries of the continent.

The Romanian representative assessed that the European countries played an important role in the settlement of the grave economic and financial problems confronting mankind, in the relaunching of the international economic dialogue and the building of the new international economic order. At the same time, he said, the framework provided by the UN/ECE should be used more efficiently for the carrying into effect of the economic provisions of the documents adopted over the CSCE process, for the attainment of the present goals of cooperation and the facilitation of the transfer of and the access to the gains of modern science and technology, through tangible actions of both regional and sub-regional interest.

In that context the speaker declared for an active support by the UN/ECE to the carrying through of economic cooperation projects in the Balkans.

Delegate Addresses Conference in Guatemala

AU141847 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
1756 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Ciudad de Guatemala, AGERPRES, 14/4/1988—Taking the floor during the debates on peace and development within the proceedings of the 79th Conference of the Interparliamentary Union in Ciudad de Guatemala, Romania's representative emphasized that the settlement of those issues needed a new way of thinking, a new approach which should start from the reality that a new world war would inevitably turn into a destructive nuclear war. Romania, the speaker said, considers that a priority condition for the ensurance of a lasting peace is the implementation of a complete disarmament programme, of nuclear disarmament first and foremost. At the same time, it sees the disarmament process in close connection with that of development, of building a new world economic order.

The speaker also showed that the parliaments and parliamentarians had a high responsibility in mobilizing the public opinion in the struggle for the removal of the profoundly negative consequences the armings, the nuclear armings in particular, had on the environment.

Army Higher Political Council Plenum Meets

AU131445 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian
8 Apr 88 p 3

[Text] The plenum of the Higher Political Council of the Army with the aktiv was held on Thursday 7 April. The meeting discussed the activity of the council and of the party bodies and organizations to implement the decisions of the 13th RCP Congress and of the National Conference. It also discussed the provisions of the directives of the supreme commander on the steady application of scientific and technological research in finding more rapid and higher-quality solutions to the problems of modernizing the army's equipment and improving its combat capability.

Comrade Ion Coman, member of the PEC and secretary of the RCP Central Committee, attended and addressed the plenum.

In an enthusiastic atmosphere of strong patriotic commitment, the participants in the plenum addressed a telegram to Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general, president of the SR of Romania, and supreme commander of our armed forces.

Council Cables Ceausescu

AU140654 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian
8 Apr 88 p 3

["Telegram to Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu from the Participants in the Plenum of the Higher Political Council of the Army With the Aktiv" held on 7 April in Bucharest]

[Text] Much esteemed and beloved Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general, president of the SR of Romania, and supreme commander of the Armed Forces:

The participants in the plenum of the Higher Political Council of the Army with the aktiv have discussed the tasks devolving on the Army. These tasks are included in the masterly speech you delivered at the 28-29 March RCP Central Committee plenum and in the other documents of that high forum. On behalf of the Communists and of all the sons of the country, who currently are serving under the colors, the participants in the meeting express their full adherence with the valuable theses, ideas, and guidelines included in the documents of the forum. These strongly reflect their outstanding importance in fulfilling the great objectives established by the 13th Congress and the National Conference of the Party.

In the same context, the soldiers of the country, together with our entire nation, highly value the decisive role you play in and the contribution you make to elaborating and substantiating in a greatly scientific manner the theory of building the Romanian socialist society, establishing a modern and intensive economy, and ensuring Romania's transition to a new stage of development. These soldiers reiterate their deep gratitude and boundless love that they nurture for you, illustrious leader and founder of a new country and hero among heroes of our nation. For more than 5 and a half decades, you have devoted your whole revolutionary activity to the fulfillment of the loftiest ideals of freedom and independence and to the triumph of the cause of socialism and peace throughout the world.

Likewise, we express our feelings of great esteem and respect for Comrade Academician Dr Engineer Elena Ceausescu, eminent politician and scientist of world renown, for her uninterrupted revolutionary activity devoted to increasing the role of science, technology, and education in building and defending the homeland and increasing Romania's prestige in the world.

The participants in the meeting have examined the activity of the Higher Political Council and of the party bodies and organizations to implement the decisions of the 13th Congress and the National Conference of the Party and of the provisions included in the directives of the supreme commander. These are the provisions on the firm involvement of scientific and technological research in finding more rapid and higher quality solutions to the problems of modernizing the Army and of increasing its combat capability. The participants in the plenum consider it their duty to express their boundless gratitude for the constant care you, much beloved and esteemed Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, show for supplying the Army with modern weapons and combat technology and for ensuring the Army's comprehensive and multifaceted instruction for the homeland's defense.

Expressing their full adherence to the foreign policy of our party and state, the participants in the meeting highly valued the new tour of peace, friendship, and cooperation you and Comrade Elena Ceausescu make in Asia and Australia, as an expression of your priceless contribution to expanding Romania's relations with all the countries of the world, to establishing a climate of detente, security, confidence, and cooperation on our planet, and to seeking solutions to the great problems confronting mankind today.

We assure you, much esteemed Comrade Supreme Commander, that the military personnel and the Communists will mobilize all their efforts to firmly implement the decisions of the 13th Congress and the National Conference of the Party and the provisions of the directives on military and political training. This is so that the Army, together with our whole nation, can be ready at any time to defend our socialist homeland.

Leaders Public Appearances 3-9 April

AU101528 [Editorial Report] Romanian media report the following public appearances of Romanian leaders during the 3-9 April period (sourcelines given in parentheses):

On 7 April, President Nicolae Ceausescu and Elena Ceausescu, Valentin Ceausescu, Stefan Andrei, Silviu Curticeanu, and Ioan Totu left for Indonesia (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1008 GMT 7 Apr) and (Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 0800 GMT 7 Apr).

On 7 April, Nicolae Ceausescu and Elena Ceausescu met with Pakistan's president, Ziaul Haq in Karachi (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1643 GMT 7 Apr); attended dinner given by Ziaul Haq (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1801 GMT 7 Apr); held summit talks with Ziaul Haq (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1830 GMT 7 Apr); left for Indonesia (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1900 GMT 7 Apr).

On 8 April, Nicolae Ceausescu and Elena Ceausescu arrived in Jakarta (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0830 GMT 8 Apr); Ceausescu held formal talks with Suharto (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0837 GMT 8 Apr); exchanged dinner toast with Suharto (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1750 GMT 8 Apr) and began official talks with Indonesian President Suharto (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1755 GMT 8 Apr).

On 5 April, Gheorghe Oprea, member of the PEC, and Ion Stoian, candidate member of the PEC, attended a Hungarian Embassy reception (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1840 5 Apr).

On 3 April, President Nicolae Ceausescu received Liberian Defense Minister Samuel Kanyon Doe (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1840 GMT 3 Apr).

On 4 April, Ceausescu received outgoing Lao envoy. (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1358 GMT 4 Apr); met with Zaire's Mobutu (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1140 GMT 4 Apr); (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1930 GMT 4 Apr); (Bucharest AGERPRES in

English 1911 GMT 4 Apr); and (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1920 GMT 4 Apr) and received DPRK vice premier, Hong Song-nam (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1748 GMT 4 Apr).

On 5 April, President Nicolae Ceausescu continued talks with Zaire's Mobutu (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1307 GMT 5 Apr); visited Bucharest units with the latter (Bucharest AGERPRES 1648 GMT 5 Apr), concluded official talks with Mobutu (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1810 GMT 5 Apr) and signed joint communique with Mobutu (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1815 GMT 5 Apr); Ceausescu also received Greek Democratic Socialist Party leader (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1800 GMT 5 Apr).

On 6 April, President Nicolae Ceausescu saw off Zaire's Mobutu (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0752 GMT 6 Apr); chaired PEC meeting (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1813 GMT 6 Apr) and (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0724 GMT 7 Apr); and met with an Indonesian parliamentary delegation (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1809 GMT 6 Apr).

On 5 April, Ion Dinca, member of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee, signed a protocol together with DPRK deputy prime minister (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1308 GMT 5 Apr).

On 4 April, Nicolae Giosan, candidate member of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee, received an Indonesian parliamentary delegation (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1709 GMT 4 Apr).

On 9 April, Ion Ursu, candidate member of the PEC, met with Soviet scientists in Moscow (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1730 GMT 9 Apr).

Milosavljevic Evaluates FEC's Performance

AU140908 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 5 Apr 88 p 1

[D. Vucinic and D. Zarkovic report: "Up to Now We Have Been 'Painting the Facade'"]

[Text] Belgrade, 4 Apr—Expectations that the realization of the tasks contained in the new medium-term economic plan will result in a turnabout in economic trends and open the door to development were too great. It was unrealistic to expect that a long-awaited turnabout could be effected by the FEC measures alone. From the very beginning of its mandate, the FEC was convinced that it was not possible to achieve such a turnabout exclusively by measures of the current economic policy, without more profound changes in the economic system and in development policy.

This was stated today by Milos Milosavljevic, vice president of the FEC, in his talk with journalists in which he briefed them on the report on the FEC's work in the last 2 years that was forwarded to the SFRY assembly delegates who, on the basis of the report and a debate in the Assembly bodies, will express their views on the FEC's results and their confidence in the president and members of the FEC in the second half of their mandate. Momo Vucinic and Tihomir Ilijevski, members of the FEC, also took part in the conversation.

Nothing Without the Constitution [subhead]

Vice Premier Milosavljevic stressed that not so long ago it was thought that the adjustment of the economic system had been completed in 1985 by the completion of the so-called first stage tasks, and that we were facing the second stage, changes in the development policy. However, time has refuted this view because it became clear that we need radical changes in the system instead of "painting the facade," and that it was not possible to introduce this reform without certain changes in the SFRY Constitution. This particularly refers to the field of expanded production and the closely related notion of social ownership, to economic relations with other countries, to instruments needed to ensure a unified Yugoslav market, and to the monetary, credit, and banking systems, and so forth.

Milosavljevic pointed out that all these systems are based on the consensus economy and that this was the reason why it was not possible to realize, even in theory, the generally accepted views on commodity production and respect for market criteria in conducting economic activities, and why the introduction of partially [delimicno] real categories—interest rates, exchange rates, and the valuation of the means of reproduction—did not produce positive effects.

Practice has confirmed, Milosavljevic said, that agreements in principle are reached relatively easily, but that problems arise when an attempt is made to put these principles into the concrete form of legal acts and everyday behavior. He illustrated this by the examples of the realization of development goals in the electric power industry on the basis of joint ventures, the absence of agreement on the construction of the network of main roads, difficulties in using new foreign loans, and other examples.

Milosavljevic used these and other examples to explain difficulties that the FEC had to deal with in the last 2 years. He stressed that on several occasions the government had to resort to intervention measures and other forms of administrative control of the economy and its performance because of the absence of economic logic in the system, significant distortions in the market, and too slow a process of harmonizing various interests with unclear ideas on certain systemic solutions or proposals for such solutions.

Experts think that the efficiency of the Yugoslav economy has been on the decline since 1964. Since then, in addition to some small and large changes, a whole repertoire of various measures of the current policy has also been used. Results were often poor because of material constraints and high inflation, and the fact that, according to the Constitution, the government did not have appropriate economic levers and instruments and "power" to ensure that what has been agreed and adopted is fully and consistently implemented throughout the country.

Milos Milosavljevic asked if governments have come and gone and interventionism has intensified, while at the same time the economic crisis has continued to deepen, is this, then, not a case of the need for the radical reconstruction of the Yugoslav economic system in accordance with the path established 30 years ago in the LCY program, on the basis of respect for economic laws and the full independence and responsibility of economic entities?

Program Expected to Arrive Soon [subhead]

According to Milosavljevic, some positive elements in our economy, such as the significant and deep penetration of the developed countries' markets by some of our exporters, are not being sufficiently affirmed in our country, although there will be no real stability without further involvement in the international division of labor.

Milosavljevic pointed out that political and economic cooperation between Yugoslavia and other countries has recently improved, although it is still below the existing possibilities, that significant attention has been devoted to the further development of all people's defense, particularly to the Yugoslav People's Army and to the strengthening of the country's overall defense capability, and that, despite the present crisis and difficulties, the situation is not hopeless and without future prospects. Removal of the deep causes of inflation has been and will remain one of the FEC's and Yugoslavia's prime objectives, which means that a stop must be put to the inflationary way of conducting business activities that has been going on for many years.

In that respect, Milosavljevic said, the most immediate task is to introduce a program to find a way out of the intervention measures that will soon be presented to the SFRY Assembly. This means setting prices according to market conditions, as well as the liberalization of our trade with other countries. But in order to prevent a price "explosion" beyond all bearable limits, we must simultaneously work on the creation of conditions for greater production and for limiting all forms of demand, which is to say, consumption.

Market Is Chance [subhead]

Rescheduling foreign debts is only one of the prerequisites for freeing the market mechanism, because this is our wish, our chance, and a ncessity; and this does not mean that the IMF should dictate respect for the market "model" of conducting business affairs.

The intensification in the work of the Commission for Economic Reforms and Constitutional Amendments is in accordance with this old tenet. It should help the platform for changes to reach the LCY conference and the SFRY Assembly Constitutional Commission in mid May, because they are the ones that should help in resolving some ideological stands and differences, which is an essential prerequisite for constitutional and economic-systemic changes, the concretization of tenets on the faster and more successful restructuring of the economy, and its adaptation to technologically more developed countries.

The Commission, consisting of about 130 Yugoslav experts, will produce proposals for a radical deregulation of the economy and changes in the role of the state in the economic system. The reorganization of the Federal Government that is currently being discussed is only the first step along that line.

Milosavljevic pointed out that, in submitting the report on its work in the last 2 years, the FEC is ready to accept all justified remarks, criticisms, and complaints, but that at same time one should note that the FEC is responsible, as could be concluded from the SFRY Presidency statement of 23 March, to the SFRY Assembly, and that it is only the SFRY Assembly that can decide on the confidence in the FEC.

[The following sections appear boxed within the body of the item]

Full Hands and Voluminous Documents [subhead]

Zoran Miskovic, general secretary of the FEC, today presented the data on the FEC's work. Since 16 May 1986, when the present FEC started its mandate, there have been 242 sessions with 5,348 points on the agenda. The FEC adopted 6,006 conclusions, 209 decrees, 970 decisions, and 752 solutions.

On the recommendation of the FEC, the SFRY Assembly adopted 216 laws. Out of these, 96 were adopted by the Federal Chamber and 120 by the Chamber of the Republics and Provinces. The Federal Chamber adopted 49 laws in accordance with regular procedures, 10 laws in accordance with shortened procedures, and 37 laws urgently. The Chamber of Republic and Provinces adopted 83 laws in accordance with regular procedures and 37 in accordance with shortened procedures (in a period shorter than 15 days). The assembly also adopted 9 laws as temporary measures, because agreement could not be reached.

The fact that the FEC has been very busy is, in a way, confirmed by the fact that this report on the government's work in the last 2 years has 107 pages.

Others Want A Commission Too [subhead]

The Commission for Reforms in the Serbian Economic System has explained two of its aims publicly, Milosavljevic said. The first is to establish the base for the work of the Constitutional Commission, and the other is to organize work on changes in the economic system in its own territory. The same thing happened in the republic during the work of the so-called Krajger Commission, that is, there was a parallel body.

Answering the question on how well informed he was about the fact that some other republics and provinces also want to set up their commissions, Milosavljevic said:

We will see, he said, whether there will be clashes on the republican-provincial line, but I think that this will only improve the work of the Federal Commission. After all, our reality is such that solutions have to be checked in the republics and provinces.

'Target Rate' and Personal Incomes [subhead]

"The target rate" of inflation is not the same as "programmed inflation." In a word, this is Milosavljevic's answer to the journalists' request to explain the meaning of the term that Janez Zemljaric, vice president of the FEC, used in the SFRY Assembly several days ago.

The so called "target rate" is derived from the analysis of all presently conceivable factors involved in conducting business activities. According to Milosavljevic, this did not mean "programmed inflation" to which the interest rate and the dinar exchange rate would be subordinated. On the contrary, it meant that they would be promptly determined according to market relations. The "target rate" was also mentioned in negotiations with the IMF, which means that this rate will be the consequence of the expected market trends rather than some sort of "cover" for all other relations.

In that context Milosavljevic also explained the policy on personal incomes. He said that the introduction of the "target rate" does not mean the freezing of incomes. Those who show a real increase in revenue and in accumulation will be able to increase their incomes. We are not talking about the indexation of personal incomes, which will apply only to those with the lowest incomes and who are socially endangered in a dramatic way. Milosavljevic also said that every announcement or the spreading of stories on the freezing of personal incomes only creates a negative psychosis.

Answering an additional question on what Zemljaric meant when he said that all forms of expenditure, including personal consumption, will be determined in "nominally limited amounts in relation to target inflation," Milosavljevic said the "what Zemljaric said was sufficient."

Problems and Cadre Changes [subhead]

Cadre changes will take place in the FEC because we have announced a new law on the Federal Government's system of organization.

This was Milosavljevic's answer to the question of whether cadre changes are expected to take place in the government.

There were also several questions whose essence boils down to: Could the FEC have worked better and accomplished more?

Milosavljevic explained that the FEC was in a difficult position because of ideological differences in the country (such as whether the constitutional amendments should be decided as a package, or whether they should be decided individually), which has caused problems in providing a clear definition on certain policies (is it possible for social ownership and a market economy to exist at the same time?). One must not forget that it is difficult to make some major moves without radical changes in the system.

The problems in the work of the FEC stem from Yugoslavia's poor information system. Milosavljevic said that data on economic relations with other countries is almost nonexistent.

But differences in views do not exist only in the ideological sphere. At the first session of the working group of the Commission for Economic Reforms, it was demonstrated that differences also existed among scientists. The question is, Milosavljevic said, whether they have different views because of the influence of the areas from which they come, or because of different scientific doctrines. However, it is certain that the taxation policy must be fundamentally changed to avoid further social stratification of the population.

Debt and the Future [subhead]

Milosavljevic was asked whether the FEC had efficiently used the "break" created by the introduction of intervention measures. In other words, he was asked to comment on the suspicions that we will enter the liberalization period unprepared.

He answered that the FEC is about to complete a program of measures that will be effected upon the expiration of intervention measures. The program will shortly be discussed in the republican and provincial executive councils, and then in the SFRY Assembly. All analyses up to now, Milosavljevic said, have shown that we cannot sustain the present outflow of foreign exchange to foreign creditors and ensure development. It is clear that what is going to happen as of the middle of May will depend on the consolidation of our foreign debt. We cannot tie our path to the market economy only to the IMF, but this will be very difficult without the financial support that the agreement is supposed to produce.

This is why the FEC could not have offered a program of measures while the price ceiling and other intervention measures existed. The negotiations with the IMF were concluded on 31 March, but some issues remain in dispute.

Serbian LC CC Warns Against Inaction

LD142250 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Excerpts] If the LCY Conference does not establish the program to overcome crisis, it will be a manifestation without real social results and an attempt by the leadership to once again maintain the existing situation and the balance of forces by postponement. This warning was given at today's Serbian LC Central Committee Plenum, which endorsed the tasks in preparation for this major meeting. Ljubisav Andric reports:

[Andric] The LC is not a sociological laboratory. It is a revolutionary organization that should change the situation and not just criticize it. In order for it to be a party of change, it must vigorously clear up opportunism within its own ranks, which is not going to be possible until it ceases to behave as a federation of parties, protecting individual republican-provincial interests to the detriment of the joint Yugoslav ones. In this way members of the highest party leadership of Serbia summed up their expectations in the period between the two congresses, the biggest meeting of Yugoslav Communists, which will be held in Belgrade next month. [passage omitted]

Winding up the discussion on this main topic, in which 16 members of the Central Committee took part, Slobodan Milosevic stressed, among other things, that the dominant orientation in the LC was the one to overcome the crisis and and create conditions for development. These orientations, Milosevic specified, started to be implemented in Serbia first and foremost in an attempt to resolve the question of Kosovo, as one of the central manifestations of the crisis. In connection with Kosovo, we have come face to face with one of the barriers that blocked all our decisions. This led to the eighth session at which we had to clear up a long-standing practice of lack of reproach and lack of conscientious attitude to the duties which we have taken upon us, stressed Slobodan Milosevic.

At today's Plenum the Serbian LC Central Committee endorsed its own tasks in the struggle for peace and development, about which Dobrivoje Vidic spoke. We are selecting the most topical attitude to restructuring from his extensive speech on many aspects of our country's political orientation. The internalization of the Soviet model of restructuring is certainly out of the question. We have all been convinced that everyone has to have his own way of restructuring, said Vidic, but support and encouragement aimed at its realization in the Soviet Union are another and also a necessary matter. Because of the significance of restructuring for the overall struggle for peace and development it should have corresponding international support, said Vidic making his point.

The 10th session of the Serbian LC Central Committee ended with an episode—with passing an unanimous decision to relieve Dragisa Pavlovic of the position of member of the Central Committee, as previously proposed by the Belgrade LC City Committee.

Suvar Address to CC

LD142025 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1354 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 14 Apr (TANJUG)—A conflict between democratic and undemocratic forces is manifesting itself daily and in an increasingly exacerbated form. Therefore, even the upcoming LCY Conference will take place with signs of conflicts between these forces within the LC itself—said Stipe Suvar, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, at today's session of the Serbian LC Central Committee. It was devoted to the preparations for the conferences of the LCY and the Serbian LC Central Committee.

Suvar went on to stress—specifying however that this is his personal view—that one must not expect that the conference will bring a final denouement to the above conflict. However, he sees in it an opportunity, as he put it, for all those in the LCY who speak from a democratic platform to win a fight for revolutionary action on this platform, for a deeper economic and social reform upon which Yugoslav society must finally embark without any further delay.

Speaking about the essence of this conflict, Suvar specified that, if democratic forces did not win, then Yugoslavia and socialism in it would be threatened. He then gave a precise explanation of the platforms of both forces in conflict. [passage omitted]

In his very extensive speech Suvar spoke a great deal about the upcoming changes in the political system. Within this context he noted, among other things, that a republic, or some other one, or yet a third one, cannot economically, culturally, and politically open itself toward the world and at the same time close its doors to our other republics and to Yugoslavia as a whole. The provinces within Serbia cannot, he added, have their constitutionally recognized role of elements in the federation if they isolate themselves within Serbia and from Serbia in an etatist way.

Socialist democracy in this country is indivisible. It cannot flourish in one or several republics while in others there allegedly reigns an undemocratic climate, Stalinism is allegedly restored, or everything is allegedly in the tradition that is fatally reproduced from the homeland of the old Turkish times. People in some parts of Yugoslavia cannot boast of being Europeans while telling others that they are from the Balkans, because all of us in this country are both European and Balkan.

Many Communists, even those in leading posts, are turning, unfortunately before our very eyes, into local Communists and national Communists to whom Yugoslavia is only an abstract form and a firing range used for accusing others. The ideologists of nationalist statisms go as far as accusing the federal organs of being the exponents of counterrevolution, saying that they have suspended the Constitution and the system and that everything is evil in the federation as a specific structure of delegate and political-managing organs and in its alleged omnipotence of a statist arbiter.

But, wondered Suvar, isn't the federation all of us, doesn't it function depending on the desire of all its members and their legitimate bodies? Let us ask ourselves, therefore, whether some individuals in the most responsible posts in this or that republic, who mercilessly attack our federation as a universal culprit, do not see here their portion of responsibility as well. The federation is in practice—and not according to our intentions and even norms—paralyzed by the force of polycentric statism. It is therefore even more an expression of arguments and agreements on these statisms than it is potent in itself, especially omnipotent, said Stipe Suvar, among other things, taking the floor in the discussion at the 10th Serbian LC Central Committee Conference.

Serbian Presidency Discusses 'Hostile Attacks'

AU131607 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian
12 Apr 88 p 1

[TANJUG report: "To Decisively Oppose All Hostile Attacks"]

[Text] The Presidency of the SR of Serbia has discussed questions on the organization and work of the territorial defense. It also endorsed the plan and action to reduce the number of members of the territorial defense in the SR of Serbia, in line with a decision by the SFRY Presidency on the armed forces.

In line with its constitutional rights and obligations, the Presidency also considered current questions on the protection of the constitutionally established order. It was assessed that our self-managing socialist system, its institutions, revolutionary heritage, the LC, the deeds and character of Comrade Tito, the integrity of the country, and other vital values of our society have recently been attacked more and more openly and aggressively from anti-Communist and anti-socialist positions. The brunt of these attacks is being borne in particular by the Yugoslav People's Army and the security service. The aim of all these attacks is to threaten the constitutional order and the stability and security of our country. Considering this, the Presidency concluded that it was necessary to decisively oppose all these hostile attacks and activities, as well as to take energetic political and legal measures against all those who abuse democratic relations and democratic discussions to attack the basic values and structure of Yugoslav society, socialist self-management, equality, and the brotherhood and unity of our peoples and nationalities. Opposing hostile and opposition activity does not mean an end to the process of the democratization of our society, but its protection and the implementation of our fundamental tenets. According to the Presidency, because of this, activities that undermine and damage the political system and the constitutionally established order cannot be tolerated. In connection with this, the Presidency also passed the appropriate resolutions that oblige state organs to take, without hesitation, the necessary measures to prevent and hinder every hostile act in line with the present legal regulations.

At this session, the Presidency appointed Dr Zoran Pjanic chairman of the Committee for the Presentation of the 7 July Prize, as well as half the members of the committee, as the term of office of the previous chairman and members had come to an end. The Presidency also made a decision to pardon a number of convicted people.

Serbian Court Confirms Ban on KATEDRA

AU141345 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian
12 Apr 88 p 3

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Apr (TANJUG)—The Supreme Court of Serbia has rejected the appeal of KATEDRA's publisher, the University Conference of the Slovene Youth Organization from Maribor, and confirmed the decision of the Belgrade District Court of 26 February on banning the distribution of the "Belgrade supplement" carried in KATEDRA No 6 in February this year. The supplement was carried on pages 7, 8, 9, and 10 and was banned because it contained untrue information that could disturb the public.

Pristina LC Examines Security Situation

LD091224 Belgrade TANJUG in English
1900 GMT 8 Apr 88

[Text] Pristina, April 8 (TANJUG)—The political and security situation in Pristina, capital of Yugoslavia's Autonomous Province of Kosovo, is complex and difficult. It is marked with the illegal actions of nationalists and separatists from the ranks of the Albanian nationality, a session of the provincial committee of the League of Communists in Pristina concluded today.

The atmosphere of uncertainty has a very negative effect on relations among members of different nationalities and stimulates the migration of members of the minority Serb and Montenegrin nationalities from Pristina and the province. The situation, the session concluded, stimulates the appearance of Serbian and Montenegrin nationalism.

10 months after the holding of plenums of nationalism in Kosovo at the level of the republic of Serbia, of which Kosovo is part, and at the level of Yugoslavia, the situation has not improved, League of Communists of Serbia (LCS) Central Committee Presidency Secretary Zoran Sokolovic said.

He underscored that the battle must be won primarily for the youth of Kosovo and against those who act indoctrinated by the criminal idea of an ethnically pure province.

Kosovo Provincial LC Committee Presidency President Azem Vlasi told the gathering that the overall situation in the country must be borne in mind while resolving Kosovo problems.

Vlasi assessed as unacceptable the taking of the position of an observer who has given himself the right to search for unresolved problems and sends lists and requests to community and higher leaderships without investing efforts himself. He said that arbitrary and ill-intentioned general attacks on organs and institutions of the system, on the leadership and individuals, negations of all that has been achieved so far in the struggle against nationalism, claims that Albanians are all alike etc, run along those lines.

Vlasi drew attention to the tendency to keeping assessments of Serbian nationalism as abstract as possible and refusing to set out concrete cases.

Reasons for Pristina LC Resignations Discussed

AU141215 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 10 Apr 88 p 6

[Zejnel Zejneli report: "Why They Tendered Resignations"]

[Text] Pristina, 9 Apr—The session of the Communal Committee of the LC of Pristina yesterday displayed the whole complexity of the political situation in this largest party organization in Kosovo. At the very beginning of the session this was shown. During the discussion on the 2-year period of work of the Presidium and the Communal Committee, several members of this forum made sharp remarks about the report, which was said to be "empty and unfair."

The debate proper began with the report on the nominations for president and secretary of the Communal Committee of the LC of Pristina. It turned into a demand for the question of responsibility of the people in this party organization, and above all in its Presidium to be considered. This was not accomplished at this session, and a discussion were not possible, because the majority of the Communal Committee members was against discussing this subject. What is more, the Serbian and Montenegrin members of the Communal Committee demanded that the question of the conduct of cadre policy in the commune also be broached. The occasion was the election of the president and, in particular, the secretary of the Presidium of the LC Communal Committee. No member of the Presidium or of the Communal Committee was against the election of Husamedin Azemi and Zivojin Mitrovic, but the question was justifiably asked: "Was it not possible to find two responsible candidates for these offices among the 55 members of the Communal Committee?"

The discussion got going only when Pavle Jovanovic, member of the Presidium of the LC Communal Committee, explained in detail how the nomination of candidates for these two most responsible offices in the commune had been conducted. As Jovanovic explained it, real acrobatics took place in the talks and during proposals. There were divisions even then, changes were made in the lists of proposed candidates, primarily for the secretary of the Presidium. Painful sessions were held and some people were in favor of one candidate on one occasion and of another candidate on another occasion.

As much as unity may be talked about in the Pristina leadership, things are not as good as they are made to look by a long shot. One can only speak about the unity of ethnic Albanian cadres, and to some extent of the unity of Serbian and Montenegrin cadres. There was no other unity. This was demonstrated at the session itself, and the rule of the majority was fully expressed. Had a vote been taken yesterday on whether the cadre policy should be discussed, it would not have been favorable. It was clear that such a discussion was not to the liking of the Albanian members of the LC Communal Committee.

A discussion of cadre policy has been persistently avoided, without any visible reason. This avoidance of discussion of cadre policy, of the people in leading positions, and of their actual contribution and ability to bring about action in settling the situation in Pristina, as well as in the province, is the main bone of contention that has been present for more than 2 years. The division of the leadership on a national basis certainly leads to divisions among nationalities. Is it not opportunistic in this case to request unity among the peoples and nationalities, unity of action and of activities in the struggle against Albanian nationalism and separatism, as well as Serbian and Montenegrin nationalism, when there is no unity among the cadres?

Obstinacy in politics, along with the imposition of cadres and the refusal to accept a discussion, above all, about the way cadre policy is conducted, are an obvious sign that somebody wants to have "his" people in office, people who suit particular individuals or small groups. The conclusion drawn by Zoran Sokolovic, secretary of the Presidency of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia, at the session of the Communal Committee was clear in this context: To introduce solutions that will be forced or imposed on the principle of the majority vote will lead to unforeseeable negative political consequences. This irritates people and causes restlessness.

This restlessness has been brought to the people, and it was brought by those who turned a deaf ear to the citizens' requests. It cannot be considered that all the demands for specific cadre solutions emanating from the grassroots come from the arsenal of Serbian nationalist circles who want to impose "their own people." At several sessions of the Presidium of the Communal Committee of the LC of Pristina, attended by the top officials of the Provincial Committee of the LC of Kosovo, Azem Vlasi and Vojislav Zajic, the chief bone of contention was the election of Executive Secretary Momcilo Trajkovic as secretary of the Presidium of the Communal Committee of the LC of Pristina. Trajkovic imposed himself through his work. He was not nominated by the nationalists, as some people think, but by citizens and people who, together with him, sit in the same body and work on the same tasks.

Unacceptable facts about a candidate or opinions about an imposed candidate, as well as the evasion of discussion about the manner of conducting cadre policy, inevitably lead to conflicts and national divisions, the imposition of majority rule, and all other negative circumstances that in no case will contribute to a stabilization of political, intranational, and human relations. This will not happen as long as the conviction prevails among individuals in Pristina and in Kosovo that people who have built their authority and trust with work in a complex political situation and difficult political circumstances should not be taken into consideration in any situation. They are allegedly pushed forward by nationalists, in this case Serbian nationalists. As long as certain circles think in this way, the cadre policy in any part of Kosovo will always be a stumbling block. However, the LC of the SR of Serbia will never allow the Serbian nationalists to attempt to spread hatred, intolerance, and revanchism, and it has demonstrated this.

Yesterday's resignations by Momcilo Trajkovic, Pavle Jovanovic, and Novica Jakovljevic are only a part of the expression of dissatisfaction with the conduct of the cadre policy, and not dissatisfaction with the candidates elected. Therefore a discussion about cadre policy is inevitable, particularly since the basic stumbling bloc was not removed either in 1981 or in 1986 despite the results achieved in bringing in young and involved cadres: Should certain positions be filled by people desired by individuals or small groups, or by people who stand out by their work and general involvement in stabilizing the situation and preventing emigration and who contribute to more stable intranational and human relations, regardless of whether this concerns cadres of Albanian or Serbian or Montenegrin nationality?

Kosovo Reserve Officers Criticize Report

AU120841 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0200 GMT 12 Apr

[Text] At their session last night, the two Presidiums of the Federation of Reserve Officers of the 16th and 17th local communities in Kosovo Polje strongly condemned the way in which the State Security Service of the Provincial Secretariat for Internal Affairs [of Kosovo] had drawn up a report on 1-day military exercises held on the 26 March this year in Kosovo Polje. In the report from the Provincial Secretariat for Internal Affairs, which was read out at the session, it was stated that individuals had been intensively preparing a meeting of military officers and had sent out 300 invitations to that end. It was explained last night that it was, however, a question of 1-day exercises that were organized by the Pristina Communal Assembly Secretariat for People's Defense. Last night, it was said that such methods had been condemned at the Brioni Plenum and that they represent an attack on members of the Federation of Reserve Officers and the Yugoslav People's Army, as well as a special kind of pressure on the inhabitants of Kosovo Polje.

Kosovo Serb Imprisoned for Nationalist Song

AU111645 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 6 Apr 88 p 12

[A.M. report: "Prison for a Nationalist Song"]

[Text] Nedeljko Jelic (20) from Urosevac was sentenced to 40 days imprisonment recently, Islam Musa, chairman of the Communal Court for Misdemeanors, told us. In court, it was stated that the accused, when seeing off his friend Sinisa Stefanovic to military service at the railroad station on 15 March at 2215, corrupted part of the text of the Song of Vojvoda Sindjelic to "Albanians were slaughtered in front of the mosque," and thereby seriously insulted citizens' patriotic values.

The following day, Nedelko was immediately taken to prison to suffer his sentence, but appealed. The Kosovo High Court for Misdemeanors referred the case back for retrial, and Nedelko's sentence was soon suspended.

The second trial on 30 March once again proved the guilt of the accused, who received the same sentence as before.

A section of the press and the television, Islam Musa said, has given a different slant to this case and has shown a lack of respect for the court's decision.

New President Elected to Slovene Presidency

LD131905 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1544 GMT 13 Apr 88

[Text] Ljubljana, 13 Apr (TANJUG)—Janez Stanovnik was elected president of the Presidency of the SR of Slovenia today, and Dr Janko Pleterski was elected member of the Presidency of this republic. Voting was completed by 1600 in 56 Slovene municipal assemblies. [passage omitted]

Admiral Mamula Visits Vojvodina

AU121905 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 12 Apr 88

[Text] Admiral of the Fleet Branko Mamula, federal secretary for national defense, paid a working visit to Vojvodina today. The talks he had with Djordje Radosavljevic, president of the Vojvodina Presidency, and Zivko Blagojev, president of the Council for National Defense of the Provincial Presidency, comprehensively involved significant topics on the further advance of defense preparations and overall cooperation between the Yugoslav People's Army and Vojvodina. It was assessed that progress has been made in realizing previously agreed tasks, particularly those in socializing and strengthening defense forces, organizing and equipping territorial defense, as well as in military-economic activity.

Specific agreements were reached that pertained to the Vojvodina economy more widely engaging the programs of special purpose production. The agreements also pertained to expanding cooperation with oil processing and chemical industry and scientific institutions, supplying units and institutions with food from our largest breadbasket, and a joint food production program.

Bosnian Assembly Endorses Draft Amendments

AU111600 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 6 Apr 88 p 5

[M. Caric report: "Republican Chamber, New Organ"]

[Text] Sarajevo, 5 Apr—The draft amendments to the Constitution of the SR of Bosnia-Hercegovina, which were endorsed today at the Sociopolitical Chamber of the Assembly of the SR of Bosnia-Hercegovina, contain new elements that have so far come into practice. The public discussion, which will last until November, will tidy up and sharpen all the proposals, among which of particular significance are the changes in the highest bodies and organs of this republic.

According to the explanation that was put forward by Savo Cecur, the republican assembly should, in the future, be reduced in terms of the number of its delegates and the number of its chambers. It is envisaged that the Sociopolitical Chamber and the Communal Chamber will be scrapped and in their place a Republican Chamber will be set up that will collaborate with the Associated Labor Chamber. The delegates to the Republican Chamber would be working people, citizens, and representatives of sociopolitical organizations. This would also mean an end to the practice of the communes gradually federalizing the republic through their chambers. The assembly's new structure will require a change to Article 144, which has not yet been mentioned in the discussion.

The Constitutional Commission of the SR of Bosnia-Hercegovina did not support the proposal on the abolition of the republican presidency. However, it has significantly limited the jurisdiction of this organ and has more precisely separated its responsibilities from those of the Republican Executive Council. The presidency would also lose its right to propose the president of the Republican Executive Council, simply because of the fact that the assembly is older than the other two organs. The question of whether the republican assembly has the right to discuss economic issues, especially in the context of the expansion of market laws and a more liberal relationship in the association of labor and finance, is also being discussed.

The proposal closest to ratification concerns the republican presidency considering only global issues of social development and being obliged to present its opinion to the republican assembly. In the future, the republican presidency would have only seven members instead of nine.

At separate sessions, the delegates today also considered the work of the Republican Executive Council in the last 2 years. Finally, they endorsed the report that emphasized that the republican government could not have done more than it did.

Delegate Ivan Bokatic was not satisfied, so with the support of the delegates, his proposal was included in the assembly's conclusion. He reproached the republican government for not yet clearly explaining—after a demand from the assembly in December—how involved the Republican Executive Council was in the Agrokomerc affair.

Sarajevo Meeting Views Security Service Work

LD092050 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1107 GMT 9 Apr 88

[Excerpts] Sarajevo, 9 Apr (TANJUG)—The Presidency of the SR of Bosnia and Hercegovina has met under the chairmanship of Mato Andric to discuss the work of the state security service last year, and its program orientation in 1988. The Presidium made the assessment that this service had attained good results in withstanding the intensified activity of the enemy, and in protecting our constitutional system. [passage omitted]

The Presidency drew attention to the increasingly frequent attacks on the internal affairs and security service organs, which are, in fact, attempts to make it impossible for them to carry out their function, activity, and tasks they are empowered to do.

In accepting the program of work of the state security service, the Presidency of the SR of Bosnia and Hercegovina made the evaluation that it proceeded from a realistically assessed political-security situation, and from the orientation at preventive activity within the framework of the social security system. [passage omitted]

Vojvodina LC Criticizes Religious Nationalism

LD090958 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1436 GMT 8 Apr 88

[Text] Novi Sad, 8 Apr (TANJUG)—The Vojvodina LC Provincial Committee Presidium, it has been announced, today considered some current questions and tendencies of clericalist and clericonationalist activity in the Socialist Autonomous Province of Vojvodina. It assessed that the activity of individuals from these positions is increasingly aggressive and that attempts to subordinate religious feelings and events to these goals have become more frequent.

These tendencies and phenomena are not infrequently aimed against LC policy and in particular against the brotherhood, unity, and equality of the nations and nationalities in our country. Aspirations toward the religious communities portraying and imposing themselves as representatives and protectors of national interests are noticeable.

The Presidium assessed that the phenomena of clericonationalism and clericalism are in deep contradiction to the position of religious communities and the realization of citizens' religious freedoms in our country.

It was emphasized that clericonationalism in our conditions is an antidemocratic, antisocialist, and antiself-managing ideological tendency. The Vojvodina LC Provincial Committee Presidium believes that clericalism and clericonationalism, as unacceptable ideological orientations, must be completely eliminated in an ideologically clear way, guided by the activity of all organized socialist forces.

In the discussion, it is stressed, the Vojvodina LC Provincial Committee Presidium started from the need to implement consistently the constitutional and political orientations on the position of religious communities and citizens' religious freedoms. Note was also made of the need to overcome the sectarian attitude toward the activity of religious communities.

Starting from experience and knowledge gained hitherto, as well as tasks in Marxist education and ideopolitical training and the concept of the ideological and theoretical elevation of LC cadres, the Vojvodina LC Provincial Committee Presidium considered both the plans and programs of the seminars for cadres in Vojvodina's municipal LC organizations.

Religious Bodies Accused of Nationalism

LD101507 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0817 GMT 10 Apr 88

[Excerpts] Novi Sad, 10 Apr (TANJUG)—In Vojvodina, where there are 26 religious communities with over 1,200 clergymen, relations with the churches have been characterized by a spirit of tolerance and respect, but within the bounds of Constitution and the law. When these limits were overstepped by individual priests or by members of church hierarchy, there was a reaction no matter whether or not this was a Serbian Orthodox or Roman Catholic Church or some other numerically not-so-strong religious community in the province. We were forced to do this because we were aware of the great danger that the abuse of national myths and national motives can have in the country, especially in a multinational province like Vojvodina, in which national equality, brotherhood, and unity have reached an enviable level.

This was stated during his meeting with TANJUG journalists by Todor Gajinov, president of the Commission for Relations with Religious Communities of the Vojvodina Executive Council. For years, he added, the stereotyped formula was "in force" that the relations with the churches were "good," but that they were "spoiled by individuals." However, this formula recently has begun to lose its value because all three churches—the Orthodox, the Roman Catholic, and the Islamic, if for example I am to take only the strongest ones numerically in our country—are trying to impose themselves as a parallel political and social factor. The Roman Catholic Yugoslav Bishops Conference and the Assembly of the Serbian Orthodox Church have joined the discussion on constitutional changes. For instance, they seek a redefinition of the role of the LCY in our society and renunciation of Marxism as ideology. They meddle in the organization and service rules of the Yugoslav People's Army and of penal institutions.

Some religious communities are trying to take advantage of the process of democratization of our society and of the open dialogue with all the people with a self-management frame of mind to strengthen their influence outside religion, trotting out national myths and motives to attain their objectives. [passage omitted]

Conscious of the strength of the national motive, Bishop Amfilohije is gradually bringing the national motive into play in his religion and culture seminar. The result was, said Gajinov, that in the second half last year the bishop "trod into nationalism." [passage omitted]

The provincial Commission for Relations with Religious Communities has drawn the bishop's attention to the fact that with his seminar he was going beyond the bounds of the Constitution and the law and that he was offering hospitality to nationalists. The bishop himself, say Todor Gajinov, admitted that nationalistic statements were made during some lectures, but that he believed that every author was responsible for his own actions, which view is not controversial. However, we believe that he ignores and does not understand the gravity of the fact that under the fabric of the church parish in Vrsac, he is involved in inpermissible activity which, by providing hospitality for nationalists, has a destructive effect in this multinational environment.

Slovene Veteran on Faith in YPA

LD102311 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2103 GMT 10 Apr 88

[Text] Belgrade, 10 Apr (TANJUG)—"We can change everything, but for the Slovenes there is no alternative to Yugoslavia." This unequivocal statement was made by the president of the Slovene Veterans Federation, Bogo Gorjan, in a wide-ranging discussion with journalists of VECERNJE NOVOSTI, which the paper begins publishing on a whole page of tomorrow's edition. Gorjan said that this was "the firm decision of our workers and peasants, this is how our technological intelligentsia think, and I am convinced that this position is also held by the majority of our teachers, lecturers, scientists, journalists, sociologists..."

For the veterans of Slovenia, and there are some 92,000 of us alive, Bogo Gorjan continued, I can say the following: When we went to war, our first thought was to liberate the Slovene nation, to save it from destruction. Our next thought was: Where does our future lie? We said that it must be in Yugoslavia. And nowhere else. For me personally that was a constant factor with which I went to war as a Communist in 1941 and which I do not relinquish even today.

Gorjan condemned the provocative articles in MLADINA, KATEDRA, and NOVA REVIJA and made the assessment that these had not succeeded in shaking the faith of Slovenes in the Yugoslav People's Army. Commenting on the "thoughts" of some Slovenes on a Slovenia outside Yugoslavia, the veterans' president of this Yugoslav republic said, among other things: If we were to organize a plebiscite tomorrow in Slovenia on some of the demands for secession, I am certain that the majority of Slovenes would come out in favor of the SFRY.

Group of 77 Agreement Called 'Historic'

LD131347 Belgrade TANJUG in English
1159 GMT 13 Apr 88

["Pool" item]

[Text] Belgrade, April 13 (TANJUG)—By adopting an agreement on the Global System of Trade Preferences (GSTP) and a Belgrade declaration, a political program document of exceptional importance for the developing countries, the ministers of the "Group of 77" wound up their three-day work here today.

The ministerial conference was ended by an agreement-signing ceremony. Forty eight countries acceded to the agreement.

The GSTP agreement has become a reality, Dr. Ibrahim Tabakovic, a member of the Yugoslav Government, said. It is a proof of determination, political will and solidarity among the developing countries. By carrying out the agreement we adopted here, we shall make sure that the principle of collective self-reliance be given a new and concrete impulse, Tabakovic said. The basic message from this gathering is that the developing countries are able to influence international economic relations—by way of cooperation to contribute to the growth of their trade and to stronger momentum of their economics.

Qualifying the GSTP agreement as historic, Tabakovic emphasised that a majority of the developing countries have voiced their readiness to take part in consolidating the GSTP process, enlarging preferentials and doing away with all non-custom and other obstacles in the way of concluding commercial and financial contracts.

At the April 11-through-13 ministerial conference, passed by consensus were also several resolutions—one among them on particular measures for aid to the Palestinian people making it possible for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to participate in the GSTP process and another on support for Panama.

Vaduva Addresses Meeting

AU111934 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
1913 GMT 11 Apr 88

[Text] Belgrade, AGERPRES, 11 April 1988—Taking the floor during the general debates of the ministerial meeting of the Negotiating Committee of the Global System of Commercial Preferences Among Developing Countries (SGPC), the head of the Romanian delegation Ilie Vaduva, minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation, set forth President Nicolae Ceausescu's outlook and considerations on the intensification of economic cooperation as an important component of the establishment of the new international economic order.

The speaker highlighted that in keeping with its constant policy of expanding economic relations with the developing countries, Romania has actively participated in the first SGPC round of talks, agreeing on exchanges of customs facilities with 25 participating countries. He stressed that the accord on the SGPC submitted for debated to the ministerial meeting would favour the development of trade and economic cooperation among the developing countries, a particularly important fact in conditions of intensifying protectionist measures by the developed countries. The setting up of the SGPC will also strengthen the negotiating power of the developing countries in their relations with the developed countries with a view to improving the modalities and mechanisms of developing international economic relations. In that context, stress was laid on the importance of the proposal of Romania, of President Nicolae Ceausescu related to the convening of an international conference, under the UN aegis, with the participation of all developing and developed countries on an equal footing to the end of examining ways of liquidating underdevelopment, of globally solving the developing countries' foreign debt problem.

Stressing that the successful finalization of the current round of negotiations of SGPC in Belgrade was just a first step towards the setting up of this system of trade perferences, the Romanian chief delegate emphasized the need for a second round of negotiations of SGPC in order to develop the results scored during the first round.

The speaker showed that it would be desirable that the accord on SGPC, to which 45 states are already parties, be joined by other developing countries, which would enhance the global character of this system of commercial preferences and the advantages it implies.

Loncar Meets With EC's Cheysson

AU141248 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian
12 Apr 88 p 2

[Text] The development of relations between Yugoslavia and the EC and the possibility of their further improvement in view of the forthcoming changes in the EC aimed at creating a single European market were the main topic of conversation between Budimir Loncar, federal secretary for foreign affairs, and Claude Cheysson, member of the EC Commission, in Belgrade yesterday.

In a cordial atmosphere, they exchanged views on how, on the basis of the existing agreement, to extend relations between Yugoslavia and the EC, particularly in trade, finance, science and technology, transportation, and standardization. The forthcoming activities of the Mixed Working Group for Cooperation between Yugoslavia and the EC were also discussed.

They also discussed matters concerning international cooperation, particularly in the Mediterranean region, that are of importance for Yugoslavia and the EC. Loncar and Cheysson spoke in detail about cooperation in tourism, possibilities for joint ventures, and environmental protection.

The meeting between Loncar and Cheysson confirmed that the EC has great understanding for Yugoslavia's economic and financial difficulties.

Albanian Nationalists Protest in Zurich

AU141119 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 11 Apr 88 p 5

[Text] Zurich, 10 Apr (TANJUG)—About 300 Albanian nationalists and separatists carrying anti-Yugoslav banners marched yesterday through the streets of Zurich. The demonstrators proceeded from the city center, passed by the JAT [Yugoslav Airline] office, and stopped in the street near the SFRY Consulate.

They shouted anti-Yugoslav slogans from the well-known "list" of slogans used by Albanians nationalists and separatists demanding the "Republic of Kosovo" and so forth, as they have done in their previous anti-Yugoslav campaigns in Switzerland.

"Adorned" with dark glasses, masks, and scarfs they came out with their wives and children to make up the numbers. They were carrying flags with the black eagle and 30 or so banners. On this occasion too they came out with the usual "accessories," such as vans and loud speakers. They were distributing leaflets in German about the alleged threat and the "colonization, repression and genocide of the Albanian population in Kosovo."

The organizer of these demonstrations is the "People's Movement for the Republic of Kosovo." The same thing happened 15 days ago in Geneva. According to Swiss law, the demonstrations were announced in advanced and were allowed by the authorities. This was the fifth demonstration of Albanian nationalists and separatists in Switzerland, that is in Zurich, Geneva, and Bern, this year.

Vidic Comments on Balkan Affairs, EC, CEMA

LD150846 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1920 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Belgrade, April 14 (TANJUG)—The obligations undertaken by Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, Turkey and Yugoslavia during the Balkan ministerial meeting in Belgrade last February are of the utmost importance for the development of goodneighbourly relations, member of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY) Central Committee Dobrivoje Vidic said today.

"This should be expected to give rise to more favourable conditions for the settlement of the well-known outstanding questions in relations among the Balkan countries," said Vidic at the session of the League of Communists of Serbia Central Committee.

On Yugoslavia's relations with other European countries and their associations, such as the European Community (EC) and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA), Vidic warned that there were certain tendencies in the country [words indistinct] only the western part of the continent as Europe, which he described as unacceptable.

"Why should Yugoslavia, which has considerable economic interests in the CMEA countries, take the stand of one-sided orientation, and this at a time of the struggle to overcome bloc barriers," asked Vidic. This is further unacceptable because Yugoslavia, as a member of the Nonaligned Movement, also has obligations in regard to cooperation among developing countries, he added.

"The policy of nonalignment is our advantage and it does not hinder us in developing modern ties with European economic groupings," Vidic specified. [Words indistinct] appealed to the movement of non-alignment to do all in its power so that the developing countries would not [words indistinct] local wars and human tragedies, but space for normalizing one's own conditions and dealing with development problems."

TANJUG Assesses Signing of Afghan Accords

LD150809 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2240 GMT 14 Apr 88

["Pool" item; by Djordje Milosevic]

[Text] Belgrade, April 14 (TANJUG)—The Afghanistan case has reconfirmed that conflicts and disagreements in today's world cannot be resolved through use of force but only through dialogue and negotiations, political circles here assessed.

It was recalled that Yugoslavia, along with the rest of the non-aligned countries, pointed out the need to respect every country's right to sovereignty and resolving crises without foreign troops since the start of the conflict in Afghanistan, at the same time setting out negotiations and agreements as the sole methods for resolving crises.

The agreement on Afghanistan, signed in Geneva today, is significant, but is only the first step which could lead to resolving the crisis and bring a lasting peace to the country.

Political circles in Belgrade welcomed the agreement and underscored its wider international significance mainly from the standpoint of strengthening the process of negotiating and [as received] agreement in the world.

They recalled that Afghanistan was a great burden in international relations and in the movement of nonalignment for a number of years.

The fact that many outside factors joined in the Afghanistan crisis shows the need for investing great determination and good will to overcome the current situation and find solutions which will suit the interests of the Afghan people.

In order to be long-lasting, the solutions must include respecting the sovereignty, independence and nonaligned status of Afghanistan and enable the Afghan people to decide their own fate.

Respect for the Afghan people's rights is the greatest aid that can be given to the country at present. The Soviet decision to withdraw their troops should be viewed in that context, as one of the preconditions for normalising conditions in Afghanistan.

The Geneva agreement has not brought lasting peace to Afghanistan but has opened the door to resolving the crisis which has not only brought much bad to the Afghan people but has significantly burdened international relations.

However, the fact that its resolving was approached through negotiations is encouraging. In that regard, the Geneva agreement could be a guideline for resolving other crises regions in the world.

Rikanovic Holds Talks With U.S., IMF

LD150834 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2244 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Washington, April 14 (TANJUG)—Yugoslav Finance Secretary Svetozar Rikanovic held separate talks today with U.S. Deputy State secretary John Whitehead, the Netherlands finance minister and International Monetary Fund (IMF) Interim Committee Chairman Onno Ruding, Nederlandsche bank president, the Basel International Settlement Bank President Willian du Senberg, and Great Britain's Permanent Secretary of the Finance Ministry Sir Jeffrey Littler. Rikanovic is in Washington for the spring session of the IMF and world [words indistinct].

As learned, the talks devoted special attention to organising financial support for the program of measures and activities for lowering inflation and stabilising Yugoslavia's economy.

The support is also aimed at succesfully realising the agreed [words indistinct] the standby arangement after its verifivation in competent bodies in Yugoslavia and the IMF.

Soviet Deputy Minister Visits Factory

LD122118 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1500 GMT 12 Apr 88

[Text] Karlovac, 12 Apr (TANJUG)—Aleksandr Pavlovich Poddubskiy, deputy minister of power and electrification of the Soviet government, today visited the Jugoturbina Metal Combine, where he had talks with Ivan Stojkovic, chairman of the management board.

During the several hours of talks, possibilities were examined for expanding cooperation in the field of energy. The Jugoturbina factory in Karlovac has for a long time been cooperating with Soviet power specialists and in the past 10 years or so it has become a regular supplier of diesel engines.

Joint GDR Cooperation Committee Ends Session

LD081640 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1312 GMT 8 Apr 88

[Text] Belgrade, 8 Apr (ADN)—The 23d session of the GDR-Yugoslav committee for economic and scientific-technological cooperation ended in Belgrade today. The delegations were headed by GDR Vice Premier Horst Soelle and Radovan Makic, member of the FEC of the SFRY.

The two sides agreed to develop their proven cooperation by extending and expanding existing treaties and by concluding new agreements, particularly in the sectors of engineering and electrical engineering and electronics.

The joint economic committee had detailed discussions on the level of the implementation of the long-term agreement in the basic goods sector. It was noted that the corresponding agreements are stable and proven bases for the continuation of the long-term agreements in the interests of both sides.

During the comprehensive exchange of views on the development of mutual supplies and services, it was stressed that the volume has continued to rise in the year 1987. The annual protocol for 1988 creates the preconditions for the expansion of trade, to which end the conclusion of further commercial treaties is planned.

By means of the "long-term program of economic and scientific-technological cooperation between the GDR and the SFRY up to the year 2000," which is currently being worked out, it is hoped that new areas of cooperation can be opened up and cooperation can be raised to a qualitatively new level.

Austrian CP Official Kalt Pays Visit

Talks With Tupurkovski

LD121043 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0917 GMT 11 Apr 88

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Apr (TANJUG)—Vasil Tupurkovski, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, has held talks with Hans Kalt, member of the Austrian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo, who is staying in Yugoslavia at the invitation of the LCY Central Committee Presidium.

They exchanged information on the activity of the LCY and the Austrian Communist Party in the internal and international areas.

Special reference was made to present developments in the world and to the role of communist, socialist, social democratic, and other progressive parties and movements in the efforts to resolve current international problems.

Tupurkovski and Kalt also discussed the promotion of cooperation between the two parties, which was evaluated by the two sides as a significant element of activity by progressive forces in this part of Europe.

Received by Gacic

LD121049 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1447 GMT 11 Apr 88

[Text] Belgrade, April 11 (TANJUG)—Radisa Gacic, secretary of the Presidency of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY), received here today Hans Kalt, member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Austria, who is visiting Yugoslavia at the invitation of the LCY Presidency.

In the friendly talks, the equal and mutually useful cooperation between the LCY and the Austrian Communist Party was assessed as a significant contribution to the promotion of all-round goodneighbourly relations between Yugoslavia and Austria.

Gacic informed his guest about the LCY's activity on the internal plane, especially in the fight for economic stabilization and the strengthening of self-management. He also spoke about the discussion on the forthcoming constitutional changes in Yugoslavia.

Officials Send Congratulations to PRC Leaders

Mojsov Greets Yang Shangkun

LD120550 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0921 GMT 11 Apr 88

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Apr (TANJUG)—On behalf of the SFRY Presidency, President of the Presidency Lazar Mojsov sent a message expressing warm greetings and wishes for successful work to President of the PRC Yang Shangkun on the occasion of his election to this post.

Mikulic Greets Li Peng

LD120549 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1143 GMT 11 Apr 88

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Apr (TANJUG)—Branko Mikulic, President of the SFRY FEC, on behalf of the FEC and on his own behalf sent a message conveying warm greetings to premier of the National People's Congress of the PRC Li Peng on the occasion of his election to this post.

Dizdarevic Greets Wang Zhen

AU141432 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 12 Apr 88 p 6

[Text] Raif Dizdarevic, vice president of the SFRY Presidency, sent a telegram expressing congratulations and best wishes to Wang Zhen on his election as the vice president of the PRC.

Briefs

Macedonian Delegation in Washington

Washington, 31 Mar (TANJUG)—Dragoljub Stavrev, president of the Macedonian Presidency, last night held talks with U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Richard Lyng in Washington, D.C. They discussed agricultural trade and the exchange of experience and technology in this field. Earlier in the day, Stavrev held talks with Secretary of State George Shultz and his deputy John Whitehead. The main topic of the talk was economic cooperation between the United States and Yugoslavia. [Text] [*AU051748 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 1 Apr 88 p 6*]

Belgrade LC Chief Reelected

At its session held on 8 April, the Belgrade LC City Committee reelected Rados Smiljkovic president of the Belgrade LC City Committee Presidium. Borislav Kuzmanovic was elected secretary of the Presidium. [Summary] [*AU141529 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 9 Apr 88 p 1*]

Uzelac Remains in Hospital

Belgrade, 1 Apr (TANJUG)

Milan Uzelac, president of the Bosnian LC Central Committee Presidium, will remain in the hospital for treatment and rest after suffering an infarction. This was the conclusion of a team of doctors who examined Milan Uzelac at the Military Hospital in Belgrade. [Text] [*AU061946 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 2-3 Apr 88 p 7*]

AIDS on Increase

Another 4 cases of AIDS have been reported to the Federal Health Care Institute, and there has been 12 new registered AIDS cases so far this year. In all, 38 sufferers have been registered in the country, of which 31 are men and 7 are women. Out of these, 18 have died. At the end of last year, it was established that 1,202 people have the virus in their blood. [Summary] [*AU081644 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 6 Apr 88 p 9 AU*]

"The Gulag Archipelago" Published

Belgrade, April 8 (TANJUG)—Yugoslavia is the first socialist country to publish "The Gulag Archipelago" by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn. The book was printed by the Belgrade publisher Rad. "The Gulag Archipelago," one of the most moving books about Stalin's labour camp system, was first published in Russian in Paris in 1973, after which Solzhenitsyn was forced to leave the Soviet Union. The book's translator into Serbo-Croatian Vidak Rajkovic was tributed in Belgrade today for carrying out his work not knowing whether his translation will ever be published. Rad is the fourth Yugoslav publisher with the intention of publishing "The Gulag Archipelago," but the first to do so. The same publisher today also presented another book, named "Ceka: Lenjinova Policija" ("Cheka: Lenin's Political Police"). [Text] [*LD090406 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0002 GMT 8 Apr 88*]